



**PROGRAMME SUMMARY
REPORT**

Episode 23

Date: 5th January, 2022

Presenters: Muhammad Adam Tudun Murtala

Discussion: Financial burden of Sickle Cell Anaemia

Discussants: Malam Musa Abdullahi Sufi, Malam Umar Muhammad Wudulawa and Malama Ruqayya Kamal Ibrahim

PREMISE

Sickle cell anaemia, is a genetic condition of the red blood cells (RBCs). Normally, RBCs are shaped like discs, which gives them the flexibility to travel through even the smallest blood vessels. However, with this disease, they have an abnormal crescent shape resembling a sickle. This makes them sticky and rigid and prone to getting trapped in small vessels, which blocks blood from reaching different parts of the body. This can cause pain and tissue damage.

ISSUES

Most common symptoms are painful episodes called sickle cell crises, which can be very severe and last up to a week, an increased risk of serious infections and anaemia (where red blood cells cannot carry enough oxygen around the body), which can cause tiredness and shortness of breath. In the world generally, Africa have the largest Sickle Celled patients and coming down to Nigeria Kano State has the highest number.

MORE ISSUES...

This condition is not communicable for it can only be inherited genetically from both parents having the sickle cell gene (SS). A sickle cell patient can have kids free from this condition provided they get married to those with no sickle cell (AA) or are just carriers (AS) the gene. Some of the challenges those with the condition is face is that they are seen as the burden in homes, this may lead to depression which is still unhealthy for the patient all as result of the huge amount of money spent in taking care of them.

...MORE ISSUES.

They are stigmatised in their schools, market place, offices etc.

Government and stakeholders should all put hands on deck to see how this condition can be battled. Those suffering from sickle cell should be seen as any other sick person and should be taken care of with sympathy and empathy.

RECOMMENDATIONS

1. Specialist hospital should be built solely for those suffering from sickle cell.
2. All those who are able should support the sickle cell community financially.
3. Parents with children suffering from the condition should always seek advice from medical experts.
4. They should be treated with love and carefully like any other sick person.
5. All families should take test to know their genotypes.
6. Youths should enquire from each other about genotype before jumping into courtship that could lead to marriage.

Presenter and discussants hasken matasa

Hasken Matasa

Every Wednesday 4:30-5:30pm

Live on Facebook

@ Express 90.3 FM
...gaskiya dokin karfe

Episode twenty three

Topic: **Financial burden of Sickle Cell Anaemia**

Programme for the youth by the youth

Wed. 5th Jan. 2022

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