

Sickle Cell Neurodevelopmental Clinic at Kennedy Krieger Institute

Who We Are

Children with sickle cell disease commonly have associated neurological and developmental complications, including strokes, seizures and cognitive dysfunction. In addition, they may have attention-deficit/hyperactivity disorder (ADHD), specific learning disabilities, language issues and executive dysfunction, all of which require additional treatment. These conditions may severely impact children's functional independence, mental health, quality of life and educational pursuits, and may increase their risk of future complications.

Research shows that progressive neurological dysfunction is common in individuals with sickle cell disease. Consequently, children with sickle cell disease require ongoing monitoring and pharmacologic treatment. Early recognition, evaluation and treatment of neurodevelopmental disorders increases compliance with therapeutic regimens, minimizes the need for other consultation, and improves mental health outcomes for children with sickle cell disease.

The Sickle Cell Neurodevelopmental Clinic provides specialized comprehensive evaluations by neurodevelopmental physicians, neuropsychologists and cognitive behavioral therapists for children with sickle cell disease.



Who We Serve

We focus on a wide range of disorders affecting children with sickle cell disease. We evaluate children with a history of:

- Academic difficulties
- Anxiety
- Attention-deficit/hyperactivity disorder (ADHD)
- Autism spectrum disorder (ASD)
- Depression
- Developmental delay
- Headaches
- Language disorders
- Motor dysfunction
- Seizures
- Specific learning disabilities
- Stroke
- Tics

Our Approach

Your child will receive a full neurodevelopmental evaluation, including a complete neurological examination, neuropsychological testing, behavioral evaluation and recommendations for services or further evaluations, as needed. Our team will collaborate with your child's primary care provider and other medical care providers to ensure efficient, high-quality and well-coordinated care.



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Our Team

During your initial visit, you'll meet with a physician trained in child neurology and neurodevelopmental disabilities, a neuropsychologist trained in clinical and pediatric neuropsychology, and a cognitive behavioral therapist from Kennedy Krieger Institute's Pediatric Psychology Consultation Program. These three clinicians—all of whom have specific experience in working with children with sickle cell disease—will comprise the clinic's interdisciplinary care team for your child. Together, they'll review and discuss the evaluation results, and create an individual treatment plan.

Additional referrals will be provided, as needed, to other Kennedy Krieger specialists, including:

- Educational psychologists
- Occupational therapists
- Physical therapists
- Social workers
- Speech-language pathologists

Additional medical consultation is available, as needed, from pediatric physicians trained in neurogenetics, sleep medicine, psychiatry and rehabilitation. All Kennedy Krieger clinicians have experience in working with children with chronic medical needs, and will do their best to help your child reach their full potential.

Research

If you're interested in having your child participate in research studies, please let us know. Our team can let you know about any studies for which your child may qualify.

The photograph used is for illustrative purposes only, and any person shown is a model.

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Contact Information

Sickle Cell Neurodevelopmental Clinic at Kennedy Krieger Institute

For more information or to schedule an appointment, please call **443-923-9150**, or call toll-free at **888-554-2080**. TTY users, please contact us at **443-923-2645**, or dial **711** to make a Maryland Relay call.

KennedyKrieger.org

Physicians and Healthcare Professionals

To make a referral, call our Physician Referral Line at **443-923-9403**.

Clinic Location

801 North Broadway
Baltimore, MD 21205

Mailing Address

707 North Broadway
Baltimore, MD 21205

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