

Silent Damage in Sickle Cell Disease (SCD)  
Can Progress to Chronic Complications

Chronic Organ Damage is a Major Cause of Morbidity and Mortality

Chronic Complications May go Under Reported

75% had evidence of chronic organ damage at autopsy but only 25% had chronic damage previously

Complications of SCD

BRAIN – ischemic/hemorrhagic stroke, silent cerebral infarction (SCI), cognitive impairment

EYES – retinopathy

HEART/LUNGS – restrictive lung disease, pulmonary hypertension, restrictive cardiomyopathy, acute chest syndrome

LIVER/GALLBLADDER – jaundice, gallstones

SPLEEN – infraction, hypersplenism

KIDNEYS – hyposthenuria, hyperfiltration, glomerulosclerosis, albuminuria, end-stage renal failure

BONES – avascular necrosis

OTHER – leg ulcers, priapism