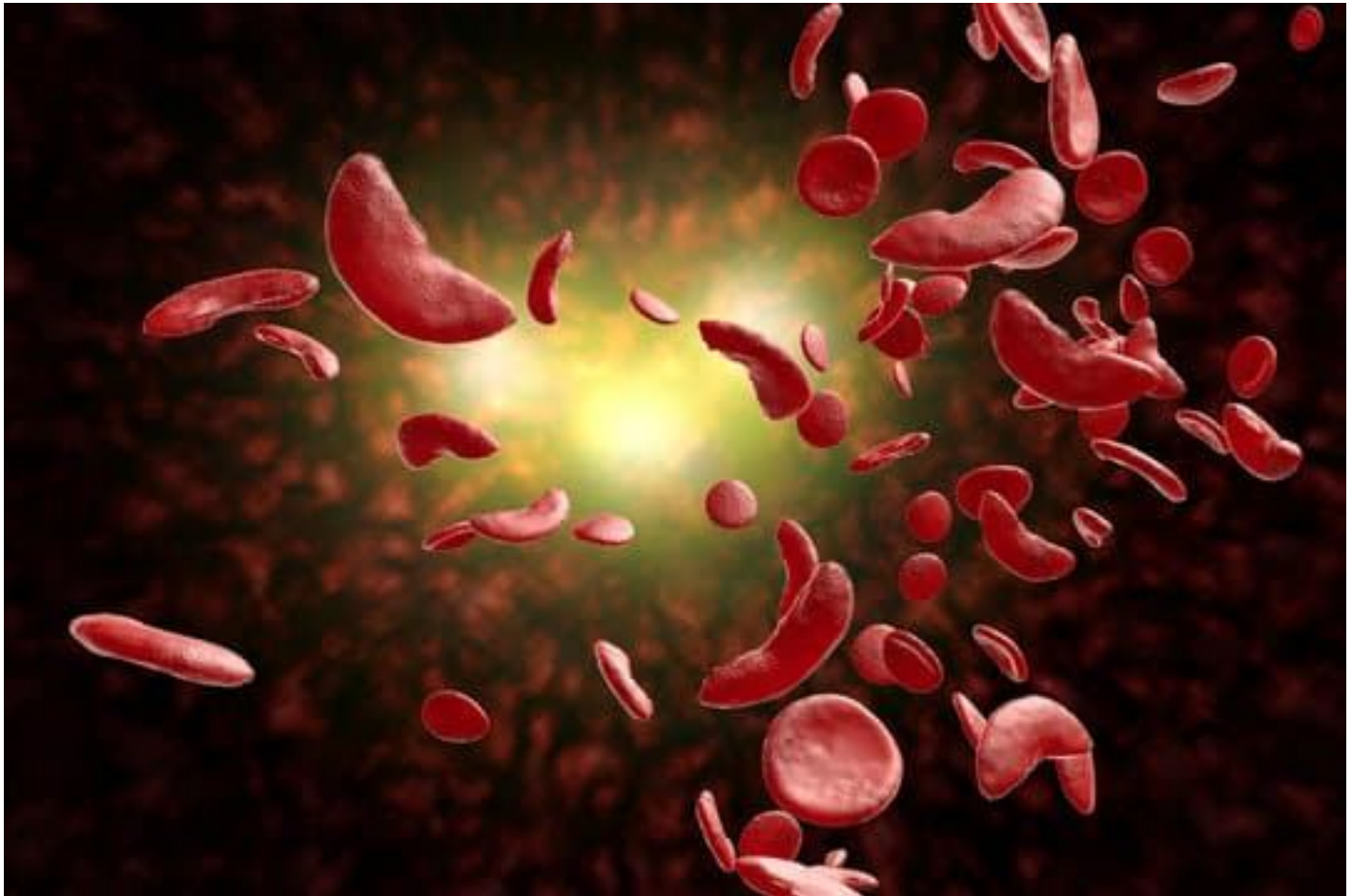


What is National Sickle Cell Anaemia Elimination Mission?

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About National Sickle Cell Anaemia Elimination Mission:

- It was **announced as part of the Union Budget 2023**.
- **Vision: Eliminate sickle cell disease (SCD) as a public health problem in India before 2047.**
- The overall aim is to **enable access to affordable and quality health care to all SCD patients**, and to lower the prevalence through **awareness**, change of practices and **screening interventions**.
- The mission will entail awareness creation, **universal screening of seven crore people in the 0-40 years age group in affected tribal areas and counselling** through collaborative efforts of central ministries and state governments.
- **Initially, the focus shall be on 17 states with higher prevalence of SCD** viz., Gujarat, Maharashtra, Rajasthan, Madhya Pradesh, Jharkhand, Chhattisgarh, West Bengal, Odisha, Tamil Nadu, Telangana, Andhra

What is Sickle Cell Anaemia?

- It is an **inherited blood disorder**.
- **It affects hemoglobin**, the molecule in red blood cells that delivers oxygen to cells throughout the body.
- **People with this disease have atypical hemoglobin molecules called hemoglobin S**, which **can distort red blood cells into a sickle, or crescent, shape**.
- **These sickle cells also become rigid and sticky**, which can slow or **block blood flow**.
- **What causes it?**
 - The cause of Sickle cell disease is a **defective gene, called a sickle cell gene**.
 - A person will be born with sickle cell disease **only if two genes are inherited—one from the mother and one from the father**.
- **Symptoms:**
 - **Early stage: Extreme tiredness** or fussiness from **anemia**, painfully **swollen hands and feet**, and jaundice.
 - **Later stage: Severe pain, anemia, organ damage**, and infections.
- **Treatments:**
 - The only cure for this disease is **bone marrow or stem cell transplantation**.
 - However, **there are treatments that can help relieve symptoms**, lessen complications, and prolong life.

Q1) What is Sickle Cell Anaemia?

It is an inherited blood disorder. It affects hemoglobin, the molecule in red blood cells that delivers oxygen to cells throughout the body. People with this disease have atypical hemoglobin molecules called hemoglobin S, which can distort red blood cells into a sickle, or crescent, shape.

Source: [What is National Mission Sickle Cell Anaemia? Modi government plans to eradicate the disease](#)

Source: <https://vajiramandravi.com/current-affairs/what-is-national-sickle-cell-anaemia-elimination-mission/>

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