Sickle Cell Disease

Hydroxyurea: What You Should Know



If you have sickle cell disease, your body makes sickle-shaped, or crescent-shaped, red blood cells. For sickle cell disease, a medicine called hydroxyurea may be able to help. **People who take hydroxyurea must have regular medical care.** A doctor who knows about hydroxyurea can tell you about the risks and benefits of taking this medicine.

Reducing the likelihood of having a pain event

Preventing symptoms like acute chest syndrome, a condition similar to pneumonia



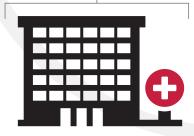




Taken daily by mouth, hydroxyurea can help by:



Reducing emergency visits and hospitalizations



Reducing the need for blood transfusions



Improving quality of life



