



Adult Sickle Cell Care

First Visit Content

- Late policy – In order to best serve all of the patients seen in the Comprehensive Sickle Cell Disease Clinic, patients who show up to clinic appointments greater than 30 minutes late may be asked to reschedule their appointment. Patients are asked to call in advance, as soon as they know they may be late for their appointment, and the provider will determine whether a patient will still be able to be seen that date.
- Missed appointments – It is necessary that you regularly attend all of your scheduled appointments, in order for the Comprehensive Sickle Cell Disease team to appropriately advocate for your needs. As such, patients who have not been seen within one to three months depending on your narcotic needs, but who call with various requests, may be asked to schedule an appointment to see their provider. At that appointment, all needs will be addressed, including but not limited to
 - Requests for documentation for employment or school
 - Requests for documentation for medical leave
 - Requests for documentation for scholarship purposes
 - Requests for contact to school or employer
 - Requests for prescription medication refills
 - Requests for pain medication refills
 - Requests for referrals to specialty providers, if not previously discussed
- Urine drug screening – Due to the safety and health risks associated with combination of prescription narcotics with illicit substances, the Comprehensive Sickle Cell Disease team will require all patients over the age of 18 years to complete urine drug screening at a random interval. Should results indicate the patient has been using non-prescription substances, the patient will no longer be given access to prescription narcotics, and the team will assist the patient in establishing care with a drug treatment facility, where the patient must demonstrate progress in the program prior to resuming their prescription medications.
- Inpatient admissions – By the age of 18 years, patients who are to be admitted to the hospital for care will be admitted to the adult service, rather than the pediatric service. There, you will be primarily serviced by the hospitalists, with the Comprehensive Sickle Cell Disease team consulting in your care.
- Emergency Care – In order to ensure all patients are getting the best and most appropriate care, it is important that patients only access the emergency department in the event of a true emergency, such as when all other components of your pain plan have been exhausted and failed, including contacting the Comprehensive Sickle Cell Disease team.

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