

Facts about sickle cell disease

- Globally, more than 7 million people are suffering from sickle cell disease.
- Every year, 300,000 babies are born with sickle cell disease.
- If left untreated, 3 out of 4 children born with sickle cell disease do not live past the age of five.
- In the Netherlands, over 2,000 people suffer from sickle cell disease. Half of them are children.
- The ancestry of people with sickle cell disease can be traced back to regions near the equator.
- Sickle cell disease is accompanied by fatigue and severe pain attacks. This makes living with the disease difficult.
- Plenty of financial support is needed to develop treatments and cures for sickle cell disease.

Let's tackle sickle cell disease together

Thanks to scientific research, people with sickle cell disease can be treated faster and more effectively. A cure is possible through stem cell transplantation, and in the future through gene therapy. However, significant research is still required.

To help raise funding for research, Miffy became the ambassador for the Dutch Sickle Cell Foundation. Together with Melanie she wants to raise awareness for the disease. Will you help too?

Donate or start a fundraiser! Go to hetsikkelcelfonds.nl or use the [QR code](#) to visit the website.



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sickle cell disease too painful to ignore



Sickle cell disease is the most common hereditary blood disease in the world. Although you may have never heard of it, your neighbour, classmate or the goalkeeper on your team might have the disease.



What is sickle cell disease?

Sickle cell disease is a hereditary blood disease characterised by anaemia and episodes of severe pain. The disease causes red blood cells to be shaped like a sickle, hence the name. Sickle cells are less proficient at carrying oxygen throughout the body and may clog up blood vessels. In the long-term, this progressively damages internal organs and body tissue. People with sickle cell disease often die far too young.