

21st April 2009

Dear John,

**Re: Sickle Cell Crisis - update**

I am writing to inform you that the Joint Royal Colleges Ambulance Liaison Committee Guideline Development Group has updated the sickle cell crisis guideline.

Based on current best evidence and expert consensus, the following amendments to the sickle cell crisis guideline, published in the UK Ambulance Service Clinical Practice Guidelines (2006) were made:

- reference to sickle cell disease, rather than anaemia
- emphasise on the need for patient centred care
- early administration of analgesia, according to the patient's care plan, where available
- stresses the use of the oral or subcutaneous, rather than the intravenous route
- the nature of the acute chest syndrome is outlined
- oxygen therapy for adults has been brought into line with the British Thoracic Society guidelines
- recognition of the issues around chronic lung injury in this group of patients.

All amendments have been highlighted and the guideline, together with an update analysis are available at:

[http://www2.warwick.ac.uk/fac/med/research/hsri/emergencycare/prehospitalcare/jrcalcstakeholderwebsite/clinicalpracticeupdates/sickle\\_cell\\_crisis\\_final\\_published\\_version\\_issued\\_21apr09fm-ty.pdf](http://www2.warwick.ac.uk/fac/med/research/hsri/emergencycare/prehospitalcare/jrcalcstakeholderwebsite/clinicalpracticeupdates/sickle_cell_crisis_final_published_version_issued_21apr09fm-ty.pdf) and a copy of the updated guideline is attached for your information.



Dr Simon Brown

Chairman - JRCALC Clinical Practice Guidelines Development Group

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