## <mark>sunday morning</mark> Health Corner

## Sickle Cell Awareness Month

Sickle Cell Awareness Month serves as a crucial period for shedding light on the impact of sickle cell disease (SCD) within the African American community. SCD, a genetic blood disorder, disproportionately affects African Americans, causing:

- Severe pain
- Organ damage
- Increased risk of infections

Recent advances in treatment offer promising improvements in the quality of life for those affected, including innovative gene therapies and more effective pain management strategies.

Engaging the community in dialogues about prevention, early screening, and the benefits of advanced treatments can empower individuals to take proactive steps in managing their health.

Together, continued efforts can pave the way for a future where **SCD's impact** is significantly reduced, and those affected can lead healthier, more fulfilling lives.





www.balmingilead.org