

Monitor

Jaundice

What is jaundice?

It is very common for people with sickle cell disease to develop a yellowing of the eyes, skin or mouth. When red blood cells break apart, this results in increased levels of bilirubin (which causes the yellow color). This process can sometimes cause the color of urine to be darkened too.

How to prevent jaundice:

- With hydroxyurea treatment, red blood cells are healthier and do not break down as much or as soon, resulting in little to no jaundice.

Symptoms:

- Yellowing of the eyes, skin or mouth
- Darkened color of urine



What to do:

- If other symptoms occur like lethargy (low-energy) or fever, call your care team.