

OneSCD (Sickle Cell Disease)

Prelims: Current events of national and international importance | Health

Why in News?

Recently, India co-hosted the launch of OneSCD, a global partnership aimed at advancing equity and transforming Sickle Cell Disease (SCD) care.



- **Held on** - The sidelines of the **81st Session of the United Nations General Assembly (UNGA 81)** in New York.
- **Key Components**
 - **Population-wide screening** - It facilitates the identification of affected individuals and carriers.
 - **Early diagnosis** - It allows for prompt and effective management.
 - **Counselling** - It provides essential support to both patients and their families.
 - **Treatment & follow-up** - It aims to ensure continuous care.
 - Particular emphasis is placed on addressing barriers related to the following factors:
 - Place of residence
 - Socio-economic circumstances

India's National Sickle Cell Anaemia Elimination Mission

- **Year of Launch** - 2023
- **Objective** - To eliminate sickle cell disease as a public health concern in India by

2047.

- **Approach** - It employs population-scale screening, early diagnosis, counselling, treatment, and systematic follow-up.
- **Implementation** - Integration within existing public health systems
- **Guiding Principle** - It prioritizes equitable access to timely and continuous care.

Sickle Cell Disease

- Sickle Cell Disease (SCD) is a hereditary genetic blood disorder.
- SCD affects haemoglobin, the protein responsible for transporting oxygen in red blood cells.
- The presence of abnormal haemoglobin results in red blood cells adopting a sickle shape.
- These sickle-shaped cells may obstruct blood flow, leading to complications including anaemia and recurrent pain episodes.

Reference

[News on Air | OneSCD \(Sickle Cell Disease\)](#)