THE COVID-19 PANDEMIC AND HAEMOGLOBIN DISORDERS

Compilation of Information for Sickle Cell Disease

For Patients & Parents

Prepared by:
Dr Androulla Eleftheriou
Executive Director, TIF

25 May 2020
CONTENTS

INTRODUCTION .................................................................................................................. 3

INFORMATIONAL BROCHURES .......................................................................................... 4
1. Classification of Risk Groups & Other Considerations – Guidance for Patients with Sickle Cell Disease (SCD) by Thalassaemia International Federation ........................................... 4

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS ................................................................................. 5

SCIENTIFIC NEWS & UPDATES ..................................................................................... 5
1. Sickle Cell Disease Scientific Update by Thalassemia International Federation ............ 5

WEBINARS/PRESENTATIONS ......................................................................................... 6
1. Webinar organised by the European Haematology Association (EHA) & Thalassaemia International Federation (TIF) – SCD/Thalassemia and COVID-19: Possible Risks and a Proposal for a Patient Pathway During the Pandemic ......................................................... 6
2. COVID-19- For the Hematologist and those who care for SCD patients by Dr Liz Klings 6

PATIENT GENERAL INFORMATION/GUIDANCE/RECOMMENDATIONS ............... 6
1. UK NHS: COVID-19 Adult sickle cell disease patient information, Thames Valley and Wessex Haemoglobinopathy Network ................................................................................. 6
2. UK Sickle Cell Society Recommendations .................................................................... 6
INTRODUCTION

This document, prepared by Thalassaemia International Federation (TIF), is a compilation of information exclusively for Sickle Cell Disease.

Sources of information:

✓ TIF informational material & Brochures regarding COVID-19 and Haemoglobinopathies
✓ TIF’s Scientific Update for SCD
✓ Articles published in peer-reviewed journals
✓ Information from official national, regional and international health bodies & SCD Associations
✓ Presentations by members of TIF’s International Scientific Advisory Board and other collaborators

TIF advises every patient to keep being continuously updated from reliable sources and discuss every concern and queries with his/her treating physician.

TIF COVID-19 Help Desk & Communication Line

✓ For Issues & Queries concerning COVID-19 contact us at TIF-COVID19@thalassaemia.org.cy
✓ For Organization of Virtual Meetings/Webinars contact us at thalassaemia-rm@thalassaemia.org.cy
1. Classification of Risk Groups & Other Considerations –
Guidance for Patients with Sickle Cell Disease (SCD) by
Thalassaemia International Federation

https://thalassaemia.org.cy/publications/tif-publications/covid-19-haemoglobin-
disorders-a-classification-of-risk-groups-other-considerations-2020/

This document was compiled by the Thalassaemia International Federation (TIF) with
the guidance and support of its International Scientific Advisory Board and other
 colaborators seeks to:

a) Provide a classification of risk levels that may be applied to thalassaemia and
sickle cell disease patients and which depends largely on age, co-morbidities
and overall general health;

b) Bring together published information on risk factors and best practices for the
management of patients in the time of the pandemic (either for disease-related
issues or COVID-19 infection) and;

c) Alert and inform all stakeholders of the plethora of aspects that affect the lives
of patients with thalassaemia and sickle cell disease consequent to the
pandemic and related to their conditions, medical and social needs (e.g.
transfusion practices, routine monitoring tests, outpatient care, emergency
care, social support and care etc);
FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

1. The impact of the COVID-19 pandemic on Patients with Sickle Cell Disease – Questions & Answers, Thalassaemia International Federation


SCIENTIFIC NEWS & UPDATES

1. Sickle Cell Disease Scientific Update by Thalassemia International Federation


WEBINARS/PRESENTATIONS

1. Webinar organised by the European Haematology Association (EHA) & Thalassaemia International Federation (TIF) – SCD/Thalassemia and COVID-19: Possible Risks and a Proposal for a Patient Pathway During the Pandemic


2. COVID-19 - For the Hematologist and those who care for SCD patients by Dr Liz Klings


PATIENT GENERAL INFORMATION/GUIDANCE/RECOMMENDATIONS

1. UK NHS: COVID-19 Adult sickle cell disease patient information, Thames Valley and Wessex Haemoglobinopathy Network


2. UK Sickle Cell Society Recommendations

https://www.sicklecellsociety.org/coronavirus-and-scd