The Cardiff Sickle Cell and Thalassaemia Centre

- Provides information screening and counselling to those at risk from haemoglobinopathies
- Targets and educates the communities at risk
- Provides support, advice and co-ordination of care to affected families
- Acts as a specialist resource for Health Care Professionals
- Holds the patient register for Wales

You can find us at the Butetown Health Centre, Loudoun Square, Cardiff, CF10 5UZ

We are open weekdays, 9am–5pm

Tel: 029 20471055
sickle.cell@cardiffandvale.wales.nhs.uk

For further information about this workshop, please contact:

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All proceeds from this event will be used by the Centre to host future events
Celebrating Sickle Cell and Thalassaemia Awareness Month 2008

The haemoglobinopathies are a group of genetic blood disorders in which either the structure (sickle cell disorders) or the quantity (thalassaemias) of haemoglobin produced is affected. Sickle cell disorder (SCD) and beta thalassaemia major are two of the most common haemoglobinopathies. These disorders are inherited and vary greatly according to the type of disorder and the severity of the symptoms. Sickle cell disorders affect, to a disproportionate extent, people of African and African Caribbean origin, although they may also affect people from the Eastern Mediterranean, the Middle East and India. Thalassaemia mainly affects people from the Eastern Mediterranean, Asia, the Middle East and the Far East.

Wales has a long history of minority ethnic settlement, concentrated mainly in the south Wales coal ports, but with pockets of settlement throughout Wales. The histories, settlement patterns, residential status and occupational profiles of BME groups in Wales are different from that found elsewhere in the UK. There is a need, therefore, to consider the particularities of the Welsh context when examining the health and social care of BME groups, not least in regards to genetic conditions like sickle cell and thalassaemia.

The key aim of Sickle Cell and Thalassaemia Awareness Month is to raise awareness of these conditions and related blood disorders; to highlight the care that is needed to those affected with these disorders; and to spotlight the support that is available. This half-day workshop will be of interest to service users and their families, health care/clinical scientists, health visitors, midwives, nurses, academics and community health workers.

OBJECTIVES OF THE WORKSHOP

To provide:

1. An opportunity to listen to the views, and learn from the experiences, of people affected by these disorders;

2. A forum in which to provide information, research findings and best practice guidance to those working or living with sickle cell or thalassaemia in Wales;

3. A network opportunity for people to meet and discuss how to improve the quality of genetic services in Wales and beyond.

LEARNING OUTCOMES

To gain:

- Knowledge of best practice in caring for those with sickle cell or thalassaemia;

- An awareness of the impact of factors such as ‘race’, ethnicity and culture in relation to specific genetic disorders.

WEDHS offers a way to improve the health and wellbeing for black and minority ethnic (BME) people in Wales through an innovative programme of research and development. www.wedhs.org.uk