

## OCTOBER

**UNIVERSITY OF ABUJA**  
*The University for National Unity, The UofA of Nigeria!*  
P.M.B. 117, ABUJA

**CENTRE OF EXCELLENCE FOR SICKLE CELL DISEASE RESEARCH & TRAINING (CESRTA)**

**PRESENTS**

# 2-DAY WORKSHOP ON MULTIDISCIPLINARY TRAINING IN SCD

**THEME**

## ACUTE COMPLICATIONS OF SCD

**RESOURCE PERSONS**

*PROF OBIAGELI E. NNODU, PROF. MAXWELL NWEGBU,  
PROF ALEX OSEI-AKOTO, PROF FRED SARFO,  
DR AKINYEMI OFAKUNRIN, DR TERKAA ATIM, DR HEZEKIAH ISA*

**28/11/2024 - 29/11/2024** **9:00AM**

**ZOOM LINK:** <https://us06web.zoom.us/j/81579831725?pwd=nCjQrnajKEVfs7a9tU2MY2985dblTh.1>

  

### SPARC-TRAIN Program: Building Capacity for Sickle Cell Research and Care

At CESRTA, we're proud to host the SPARC-TRAIN program, an NIH-funded initiative designed to provide cutting-edge research training for qualified individuals at the University of Abuja (UoA), the University of Ibadan (UI), and Kwame Nkrumah University of Science and Technology (KNUST) in Ghana. The program fosters collaboration between institutions in

Nigeria and Ghana, offering mentorship, education, and hands-on clinical research opportunities to all trainees.

In October and November, SPARC-TRAIN organized Multidisciplinary Training Workshops to equip healthcare workers across all levels—primary, secondary, and tertiary care—with essential skills to better manage

sickle cell disease (SCD). The hybrid workshops allowed participants to join both in person and online, making them accessible to a wider audience.

By providing practical, adaptable training for healthcare professionals, CESRTA is helping to strengthen the health system, improve SCD care, and create lasting change in Nigeria and beyond.



## Newborn Screening Outreach

On November 3rd, the CESRTA team extended its commitment to early sickle cell disease detection through a targeted outreach program at New Estate Baptist Church. This initiative exemplifies our ongoing mission to provide accessible healthcare services to local com-

munities.

The free newborn screening event offered parents an opportunity to know their children's genotype early. Thereby helping them make informed healthcare decisions in the future.

Such community-based screenings

are important in bridging healthcare gaps, increasing awareness, and providing proactive medical interventions. Our team remains dedicated to reaching families across different community settings, ensuring that every child has the chance for early detection and optimal care.

## CESRTA Blood Drive

On November 29, 2024, CESRTA conducted a critical blood donation drive that underscored the importance of community involvement in healthcare support. The event successfully brought together a diverse

group of donors, highlighting the collective spirit of giving and compassion. Our blood drive achieved significant milestones, with a mix of first-time and returning donors contributing to this life-saving initiative. The enthusiastic

participation, particularly from first-time donors, demonstrated growing awareness about the role of blood donation in supporting medical treatments and emergency care. These community-driven efforts are more



than just a collection of blood units; they represent hope, soli-

arity, and the tangible ways individuals can make a meaningful dif-

ference in healthcare support.

## CESRTA End of the year party



On November 30th, CESRTA hosted a vibrant celebration honoring our sickle cell warriors—a remarkable event that beautifully blended education, support, and joy. The gathering brought together patients, their fami-

lies, caregivers, physicians, and our dedicated team members in a powerful display of community solidarity.

Beyond the festive atmosphere and delicious meals, the event served a crucial purpose of holistic patient support.

Informative sessions explored critical aspects of sickle cell disease management, including:

- Strategies for medication adherence
- Nutrition's role in patient health
- Understanding psy-

chological well-being's impact on quality of life

Interspersed with educational moments were engaging games

and opportunities for social connection, creating a balanced environment of learning and celebration. These gatherings are more than just par-

ties—they're affirmations of resilience, hope, and collective strength.

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## Editorial Team

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