Medical and Surgical Complications of Sickle Cell Anemia

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Preface

Sickle cell anemia is one of the common hemoglobinopathies in the world and it results from a single change of amino acid, valine instead of glutamic acid at the 6th position of the 146 amino acids of the beta chain of the hemoglobin. A single change of one amino acid can lead to so much morbidity and mortality. Sickle cell anemia can affect every part of the body leading to so much morbidity and mortality. Awareness of sickle cell anemia and its complications is important for early diagnosis and management, taking into consideration the recent advances in the management of sickle cell anemia including the use of hydroxyurea, bone marrow transplantation, and the promising gene therapy. This book is written as an outline of sickle cell anemia and its medical and surgical complications. It is written in a simple way and easy to read. It covers most aspects of sickle cell anemia with emphasis on the medical and surgical complications of sickle cell anemia and the most important points relevant to the patient's presentation, diagnosis, and management. This book is well illustrated and includes clinical, operative, radiological, histopathological, and hand-drawn illustrations. I hope this book will be useful to consultant pediatricians, consultant internists, consultant hematologists, specialists, fellows, and residents. The book should be useful also to general practitioners, general surgeons, accident and emergency doctors, trainees, medical students, and nurses.

Qatif, Saudi Arabia — Ahmed H. Al-Salem

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