



**GARDEN WEBINARS: A COMPREHENSIVE APPROACH FOR BREAKING-UP THE COMMON BARRIERS
OF HEMATOLOGICAL RARE DISEASES**

**HOW TO IMPROVE DIAGNOSIS AND MANAGEMENT
OF SICKLE CELL DISEASE WORLDWIDE**

FAD SINCRONA ECM

26 June 2026

DATE: June 26, 2026

TRAINING HOURS: 4,5 hours

NUMBER OF PARTICIPANTS: 500

ECM ID: 275 - 487856

CME CREDITS GRANTED: 6

FAD PLATFORM URL: <https://infomed-ecm.it/>

FAD PLATFORM LOCATION: Via San Gregorio 12 – 20124 Milan, Italy

SCIENTIFIC DIRECTOR

Prof. Aurelio Maggio

Steering Committee:

Mariane De Montalembert, Aurelio Maggio ,Paul Telfer

FACULTY:

Raffaella Colombatti – Padova (Italy)

Lucia De Franceschi – Verona (Italy)

Mariane De Montalembert – Paris (France)

Stephan Lobitz – Koblenz (Germany)

Aurelio Maggio – Palermo (Italy)

Caterina Minniti – New York (USA)

David C. Rees – London (UK)

Paul Telfer – London (UK)

Leon Tshilolo – Mbujimayi (Congo)

Donatella Venturelli – Modena (Italy)

in&fo&med s.r.l.

Sede legale e Operativa

Via San Gregorio, 12 - 20124 Milano

Tel. +39 02 49453331

Posta certificata infomed-srl@legalmail.it



C.F. e P.I. 01518390990

C.C.I.A.A. di Milano n. 2112775

Capitale Sociale i.v. € 15.000.00





TRAINING OBJECTIVE:

3 - Documentazione clinica. Percorsi clinico-assistenziali diagnostici e riabilitativi, profili di assistenza - profili di cura

RAZIONALE

Sickle cell disease (SCD) is one of the most prevalent rare hematological disorders worldwide, affecting millions of individuals across Africa, Europe, the Americas and the Middle East. Although the disease was historically concentrated in specific geographical regions, migration patterns and demographic changes have significantly modified its epidemiology, making SCD an increasingly relevant healthcare challenge in many European countries, including Italy.

Despite major scientific and therapeutic advances, important gaps remain in early diagnosis, appropriate clinical management, laboratory monitoring, and access to innovative treatments. Early identification of patients is essential for preventing severe complications and improving long-term outcomes. In this context, laboratory medicine plays a critical role through neonatal screening programs, advanced diagnostic tools, and molecular characterization of hemoglobin variants.

In parallel, the therapeutic landscape of SCD is rapidly evolving. Disease-modifying strategies, including optimized hydroxyurea use and new targeted pharmacological agents, are increasingly available. In addition, gene therapy and gene-editing technologies are opening new perspectives for potentially curative approaches. These innovations raise important clinical, regulatory, organizational, and economic questions that require continuous education and multidisciplinary discussion.

Healthcare professionals involved in SCD management must therefore be continuously updated on diagnostic advances, laboratory approaches, and emerging therapeutic strategies. Collaboration between clinicians, biologists, and laboratory technicians is essential to ensure appropriate diagnostic pathways, accurate interpretation of laboratory results, and effective patient monitoring.

The GARDEN Network CME Webinar 'How to Improve Diagnosis and Management of Sickle Cell Disease Worldwide' aims to provide an updated multidisciplinary overview of the disease, focusing on global diagnostic challenges, innovative models of comprehensive care, emerging therapeutic strategies, and issues related to treatment accessibility and sustainability.

The event is specifically designed for medical doctors, biologists, and laboratory technicians working in hematology and rare diseases, with the objective of improving diagnostic accuracy, strengthening collaboration between clinical and laboratory professionals, and facilitating the translation of scientific advances into routine clinical practice.

COURSE TARGET AUDIENCE:

Medical Doctor

- Hematology
- Internal Medicine
- Pediatricians

Biologist

- Biologist

in&fo&med s.r.l.

Sede legale e Operativa

Via San Gregorio, 12 - 20124 Milano

Tel. +39 02 49453331

Posta certificata infomed-srl@legalmail.it



C.F. e P.I. 01518390990
C.C.I.A.A. di Milano n. 2112775
Capitale Sociale i.v. € 15.000.00





Biomedical Laboratory Technician

- Biomedical Laboratory Technician

Nurse

- Nurse

OBJECTIVE:

By the end of the webinar, participants will be able to:

- Identify current global challenges in the diagnosis of sickle cell disease;
- Understand the role of laboratory diagnostics and neonatal screening in SCD;
- Evaluate innovative models of comprehensive care for SCD patients;
- Discuss emerging therapeutic strategies, including gene-based approaches;
- Analyze regulatory, HTA and accessibility challenges related to new treatments.

SCIENTIFIC PROGRAM

09:00 – 09:15

Welcome & Opening Remarks

Overview of global SCD burden and objectives of the webinar

Chair: A. Maggio

09:15 – 10:00 - FIRST SESSION: Global Barriers to Early Diagnosis of SCD

Chair: Raffaella Colombatti

09:15 – 09:30 Bridging the Access Gap for Comprehensive Sickle Cell Disease Management Across Sub-Saharan Africa: Learnings for Other Global Health Interventions?

L. Tshilolo - Congo

09:30 – 09:45 Neonatal screening for SCD in Italy: Low Cost and Reproducible Program in an Area of Immigration of High Risk Population

D. Venturelli - Italy

09:45 – 10:00 Sickle cell disease in Germany. Results from a national registry: which are the unmet needs?

S. Lobitz - Germany

10:00 - 11:00 – SECOND SESSION: Innovative Models of Comprehensive Care

Chair: Lucia De Franceschi

10:00 – 10:15 Comprehensive care management in pediatrics age of SCD

R. Colombatti - Italy

10:15 – 10:30 Transition from pediatric to adult care

C. Minniti - USA

in&fo&med s.r.l.

Sede legale e Operativa

Via San Gregorio, 12 - 20124 Milano

Tel. +39 02 49453331

Posta certificata infomed-srl@legalmail.it



C.F. e P.I. 01518390990

C.C.I.A.A. di Milano n. 2112775

Capitale Sociale i.v. € 15.000.00





10:30 – 10:45 Comprehensive approach for SCD care centers

J. Telfer - UK

10:45 – 11:00 After two decades of hydroxyurea: leukemic risk in sickle cell disease assessed by integrated marrow morphology, cytogenetics and genomics

A. Maggio - Italy

11:00 – 11:15 Break

11:15 - 12:15 – THIRD SESSION: New Therapeutic Strategies: From Disease-Modifying Agents to Curative Approaches

Chair: Aurelio Maggio

11:15 – 11:35 Current and innovative treatments approach management of SCD in France

M. De Montalembert - France

11:35 – 11:55 Sickle Cell Disease management in UK: impact of Gene Editing treatment

D. Rees - UK

11:55 – 12:15 New insights on the hematopoiesis disorders in SCD

L. De Franceschi - Italy

12:15 - 13:15 – FOURTH SESSION: Accessibility, HTA and Sustainability of SCD Treatments

Chairs: M. De Montalembert and P. Telfer

Speakers, Representatives of Regulatory Agencies, Representatives of low-resource countries, Representatives of the Project Italy-Tunisia ETIC, Patient Association Representative, Nurse Specialist, Psychologist

Discussion on actionable recommendations for 2027

13:15 – 13:30 Closing Remarks & Action Points

Summary of key messages

Proposal for GARDEN SCD Position Paper

Future collaborative initiatives

in&fo&med s.r.l.

Sede legale e Operativa

Via San Gregorio, 12 - 20124 Milano

Tel. +39 02 49453331

Posta certificata infomed-srl@legalmail.it



C.F. e P.I. 01518390990

C.C.I.A.A. di Milano n. 2112775

Capitale Sociale i.v. € 15.000.00

