Sickle Cell Today

USA Health Comprehensive Sickle Cell Center

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Make a Gift to the University of

vaccines is to achieve indirect protection with vaccination and enhanced antibody production against COVID-19 rather than antibody production from previous infections which contributes to unnecessary illness and death. Ultimately when a substantial proportion of the population has been vaccinated, “herd immunity” is achieved. Herd immunity limits the overall amount of COVID-19 able to spread in the whole population and breaks any chains of transmission. What the actual proportion of the population that must be vaccinated against COVID-19 to begin inducing “herd immunity” is not known.

Putting the impact of COVID-19 deaths in perspective, COVID-19 deaths have surpassed the number of Americans killed during the Civil War (498,332); World War I and World War II (116,516 and 405,399, respectively); and all American wars since 1945 combined.

As the U.S. surpasses 500,000 deaths due to COVID-19, certain facts still remain true, particularly for the sickle cell community:

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In the September 2020 edition of Sickle Cell Today, the article entitled, “The Importance of daily medication compliance,” focused on the importance of patient compliance in sickle cell disease (SCD). Now, this article focuses on the healthcare provider’s role in patient medication adherence.

Often the terms compliance and adherence are used synonymously. However, the term compliance refers to how the patient’s behc1 (e)erencthe (ef)-2 (6.[(the8i)122)53 (s beh)-2lldiceeostient eeeeeeeeeeeeeealthc(s C_ >>83r047 [(t8)9 No (9hc)9 (201)1e9e used

disinfectant Spray. “By supplying the clients with protective aids and sanitation cleansers, that are now so expensive, it will help those already facing economic hardships”, Davis-Williams added.

SCDAA-MC continues, even after the holiday season, to provide clients with those safety aids. It is also providing additional support to its clients to help with needed medical care. Individuals living with sickle cell disease in Mobile, Baldwin, Clarke, Choctaw, Connecuh, Covington, Escambia, Monroe, and Washington counties are encouraged to reach out to the association to nd out what assistance is available. The contact phone number is (251) 432-0301.

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The Pediatric to Adult Care Transition Program (PACT) was started in 2012 to bridge the gap between the pediatric and adult healthcare systems for sickle cell disease participants between the ages of 13 and 21. The goal of PACT is not only to educate participants, but to also ensure they are prepared

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