

Many Symptoms Indicate Sickle Cell Disorder

Last in a Series

The symptoms for sickle cell anemia range from swollen joints to convulsions.

Although hereditary, this disease is not apparent at birth. Symptoms usually appear only later on during a child's second to fourth year.

Children with the disease, which is a deficiency of the blood, show loss of appetite, colic, repeated fever, vomiting, slow weight gain, pale complexion and jaundice.

Some children have a painful swelling of both hands or feet, along with fever and irritability. In older children, these symptoms are more readily noticed than in infants. Frequently, an infection such as a sore throat or cold precedes or accompanies a crisis.

Between crisis stages, a child may complain of weakness and may tire very easily. When a crisis occurs, he may carry the above symptoms, as well as swollen joints and glands, resembling rheumatic fever. Headache, drowsiness, convulsions, stiff neck, inability to speak, nosebleed, bloody urine and shock are also sometimes seen.

On physical examination, an enlarged heart with a murmur may be found, among other disorders. As a rule, children with sickle cell anemia weigh less and are of thinner body build than normal children. A complication involving the brain may even cause mental retardation.

Because sickle cell anemia is a dis-

ease of the blood, any part of the body may be affected. Almost any organ can be involved, and the course of the disorder takes a different course from person to person.

The disease appears to be more severe in childhood than in later life, according to the studies done on the subject. In adults, women may be unable to have children, while both men and women may have frequent infections, especially of the respiratory tract. This infection has been known to lead to death.

Other leading causes of death due to sickle cell anemia are failure of the heart, kidneys, involvement of other vital organs and shock.

Since this disease is hereditary, the only method of prevention known is to avoid marriage between two persons with the severe form, or with the sickle cell trait. A doctor familiar with the family history of both persons can help determine whether the disease is likely to occur among offspring.

In the care of patients with sickle cell anemia, the best care — until a cure is found — is proper diet, good medical and dental care, avoiding exposure to infections, and prompt attention by a doctor when a crisis takes place. Increased fluids and aspirin may help during a painful crisis period.

More information on the detection, care and treatment of sickle cell anemia may be obtained at the Consolidated Health Clinic, 508 Elizabeth Street, in the Model Neighborhood.

Own Corporation Boosts Minority Businessmen

The High Point Business Development Corporation is doing a whole lot of work and not much crowing.

Keeping their operations low-key for the time being, the HPBDC is set up to stimulate small businesses, especially those of minority men in the community.

In the meantime, the corporation

hopes to benefit businessmen specifically in the Model Neighborhood.

Funded entirely by the Model City Commission, the High Point Business Development Corporation was established in August and opened its offices October 1. Its director is Tom Robinson, who acts as a planner and producer of the corporation's proposals.

At the head of the corporation, which is made up of approximately 35 small businessmen, is an 11-member board of directors. This board acts as a policy-making body for the group.

Most of the member businessmen are from the Washington Street area within the Model Neighborhood. It was they who approached the Model Cities Employment and Economic Development task force with a proposal for an agency such as HPBDC.

Robinson, as director, provides technical assistance which ranges from bookkeeping pointers to marketing information to all current and potential businessmen who request it.

He is also involved with businesses which must be relocated as a result of government action, such as Urban Renewal.

SHOPPING CENTER

The largest single goal at present, however, is the building of a shopping center in the Farmington Forest housing development off Brentwood Street.

HPBDC, with the help of the Foundation for Community Development, a local bank and Model Cities, purchased in November a 6½-acre tract of land from the Westminster

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For Low-Income Families

Farmington Homes Nearing Completion

One of the largest construction projects in High Point's history is now in its first stages of completion.

The Farmington subdivision, a low-income housing development on Brentwood Street, has a proposed 90 homes and 272 apartments to be occupied eventually through Federal Housing Administration loans and subsidies.

Nineteen of the 90 homes are now completed and have been sold. An additional 15 are already under construction. Half of the 272 apartment units are also under way.

The Farmington project is a private venture by the Westminster Corporation, who developed the land with the approval of the Federal Housing Administration (FHA). Local realtors Craven-Johnson-Pollock manage the rental and sales of the housing units.

Harold Craven of Craven-Johnson-Pollock described the building project as "just like any other building program but with FHA subsidy."

Craven's firm, located at 521 N. Main Street, takes applications for homes on a first-come, first-served basis. Families involved in relocation are given a priority.

The local Redevelopment Commission makes a credit report on the ap-

plicant, and helps him work out any problems he may have in obtaining FHA funds for his purchase. The federal agency has established guidelines he must meet before qualifying for the subsidy.

FACTORS INVOLVED

Many factors are involved in deciding who is eligible for an FHA loan. Besides income, there are family size, age of children, and number of persons in the home who work which must be taken into account.

After an application is approved, an average down payment of \$250 is made. However, this figure too varies according to the family's financial status.

The Farmington project was designed for those who have had money management problems, and have been unable to buy or rent suitable housing in the past. Homes and apartments there are available for families who have had credit difficulties and who have low to moderate incomes.

The federal government does not fully pay for the homes. Rather, under the Title 235 program, it guarantees payment in case a man cannot pay, and keeps monthly installments within reach of a family's income by supple-

menting the payments.

Under the Title 236 program, FHA supplements monthly rent payments according to the ability of a family to pay a part of the rent.

All of the homes in the Farmington project are single-story, three- or four-bedroom units. The apartments in the first phase, when built, will consist of 16 single-bedroom units, 88 two-bedroom units, and 32 three-bedroom units.

Craven said the first 136 apartments are expected to be completed by March at the earliest. Construction, he said, was naturally subject to bad weather.

APPLICATIONS

Formal applications for the Farmington apartments should be taken within the next two or three weeks by the Craven-Johnson-Pollock company. Those who wish to have their names on a waiting list may stop by their office before that time.

Applications are now being accepted for the home-ownership units. Craven pointed out that when a family buys a house on this FHA-approved plan, they buy the land it stands on, as well. An average lot is 65 feet by 150 feet.

Those who are interested in these low- and moderate-income housing units should contact the project manager, Craven-Johnson-Pollock, or the Redevelopment Commission. The Central Relocation Agency in City Hall can also help those who have priority due to government action.

Consumer Credit Counseling, 142 Church Avenue, also offers free advice and information to those who would like to buy or rent these new homes.

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