

# Women Health and Midwifery

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## the medical journey of women's health living with sickle cell disease and pregnancy through diagnosis, admissions, blood transfusions and medications

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**BACKGROUND:** Persons Living with Sickle Cell Disease (PLWSCD) have a chronic illness which requires proper diagnosis, lifelong medications and follow up. They experience acute and chronic complications and are prone to frequent admissions and to receiving multiple blood transfusions. Description of their experiences can assist relevant authorities and stakeholders understand their plight and plan for their care.

**OBJECTIVE:** To describe the care and medical experiences of PLWSCD in 5 counties (Bungoma, Busia, Kakamega, Vihiga and Trans-Nzoia) in Western Kenya.

**METHOD:** A cross-sectional study in which interviewer administered questionnaires were used to collect information on the demographic characteristics, mode of diagnosis, frequency of hospital admissions and blood transfusions and access to the standard medications required.

### Biography

Owino E. is affiliated with the Sickle Cell Uhuru Trust (SCUT) and the Sickle Cell Federation of Kenya. Additionally, they are associated with the University of Nairobi and Moi University. Owino E. is actively involved in research, advocacy, and initiatives aimed at improving the understanding, management, and treatment of sickle cell disease in Kenya.