



THE OFFICIAL NEWSMAGAZINE OF THE AMERICAN ACADEMY OF PEDIATRICS

AAP News

FDA committed to advancing minority health

by from the Food and Drug Administration's Office of Pediatric Therapeutics, Office of Minority Health and Health Equity and Center for Drug Evaluation and Research, Division of Pediatric and Maternal Health



The Food and Drug Administration (FDA) continues to work to eliminate health disparities among diverse racial and ethnic populations.

The FDA Office of Minority Health and Health Equity (OMHHE) was established in 2010 to strengthen the FDA's ability to respond to minority health concerns, advance minority health and health equity-focused research, improve FDA communication with diverse populations and advocate for the inclusion of racial and ethnic populations in clinical trials.

OMHHE works across FDA product centers and offices and with a broad range of public and private stakeholders to accomplish its mission. A key component of OMHHE efforts includes raising awareness about [clinical trial diversity](#) and [educating diverse consumers on diseases and conditions](#) that disproportionately impact racial and ethnic minority groups.

One such disease is sickle cell disease (SCD), a genetic condition that affects the body's red blood cells and primarily impacts African Americans. Since 2017, the FDA has approved four treatments to manage SCD symptoms in adult and pediatric patients.

The OMHHE employs a variety of strategies to educate the sickle cell community, including developing culturally and linguistically tailored low literacy [materials and resources](#) that are translated into multiple languages. Examples of materials include a [fact sheet](#), [video](#) and [health equity webinar](#). The OMHHE engages consumers through social media and shares information at national stakeholder conferences and meetings.

The FDA will continue to work to eliminate health disparities, engage with stakeholders to encourage diversity and inclusion in clinical trials, and communicate with and educate patients on the importance of making informed decisions about their health.

Resources

- [FDA Office of Minority Health and Health Equity \(OMHHE\) webpage](#)
- [Racial and Ethnic Minorities in Clinical Trials](#)
- [Minority health resources from the OMHHE](#)
- [FDA fact sheet on sickle cell disease](#)



THE OFFICIAL NEWSMAGAZINE OF THE AMERICAN ACADEMY OF PEDIATRICS

AAP News

- [Additional FDA Update columns](#)