

Children, sickle cell anemia, expected death: The psychological impact on mothers and fathers and their inability to treat

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Children who suffer from sickle cell anemia, and there are more of them here. They are liable to die at any moment without realizing it, but here lies the major problem with the great psychological impact of the father and mother who realize that their son or children will leave them one day, in succession. It is a feeling mixed with pain, confusion and frustration for the parents. But it is somewhat mitigated by the fact that the children are unaware of what awaits them. Therefore, when you look, they smile and laugh at you, the pain squeezes inside you, and you see the children's innocence gradually withering in front of your eyes as a doctor, so how will it be in front of the mother and father? The psychological suffering of the father and the father needs great psychological support in order to prevent reaching addiction to what relieves them of feelings. Here they resort to khat, which is a narcotic plant that contains Cathinone (an amphetamine-like stimulant).

It is classified by the World Health Organization among narcotic herbs, and it is very, expensive and affects the level of family income, and therefore the results of addiction to it lead to bad results in children's nutrition on the one hand, and also from the psychological aspect of the father and mother on the other hand. These children suffer from pain on a semi-monthly basis, if not weekly, and they need medication daily. Of course, the costs of medication are high, and the income of families is very little, if not non-existent for some. In the meantime, what is the position of the father and mother when they see their son or children in pain and cannot help them because of their inability to buy medicine? It is a painful, frustrating, cruel feeling that squeezes the heart of the father, so he looks at the sky confused, while the mother sheds tears and weeping.

The father and mother resort to consuming khat to escape from the painful reality in their lives, which leads to a further deterioration of the health of the children and weakens the financial condition of the family. As for the mother and father, addiction to khat causes many psychological problems. The purpose of my words, as a pediatrician, is to study an existing situation that I see increasing day by day. It has psychological repercussions on fathers and mothers, as well as on affected children after they reach adolescence and begin to realize the problem and its repercussions, and the impact of bullying by their schoolmates on them, and these children cannot continue studying as a result of repeated bouts of illness, which makes them lag behind others in studying. Addiction to khat has led to the emergence of many cases of psychological depression among mothers and fathers. The results of the treatment are not satisfactory because it is difficult to obtain medicines due to the high cost and the inability to buy. The number of those who suffer from a psychological impact is very large, according to the statistics of our fellow psychiatrists.