**Nicholas’ Story: Suggestions for Using the Case**

Your instructor has decided to use Nicholas’ story in this class. Cases are stories with educational messages. In order to understand why learning with cases is valuable, consider the following:

Suppose you plan to be a health practitioner, a genetics counselor, or a research scientist.

* What might you want to know or need to know about this case?
* How would you learn more about the disease in question?
* How would understanding the structure and function of Hemoglobin help you in your future career?

Learning: Be prepared to present your ideas and to support them with as much evidence and persuasion as you can. At the same time, be equally prepared to listen to the comments of your classmates. Keep an open mind, and do not hesitate to incorporate ideas of other students when you find them persuasive.

**Questions to ask yourself so that you can direct your explorations and learning:**

About the case/problem:

* What is the situation? What problem(s) need to be solved?
* For this case for example, what do you need to know about hemoglobin structure and function. Where might you go to learn about this?
* What literature or websites would give you valid information about hemoglobin structure and function? e.g., for this case the [resources guide](https://molecular-casenet.rcsb.org/sites/default/files/2019-05/Sickle-Cell-Resources.docx) can provide some good starting places.

About Learning Objectives?

* Why did the teacher assign the case? What are you supposed to learn or notice?
* What do you need to know in order to:
  + identify your options? i.e., choose a research direction/ propose a treatment plan
  + select an option?
  + implement a particular option?

Think:

* What are all the possible options to think about in this case? (Think creatively)
* What are the costs/benefits and pros/cons of each option? (Think critically)
* Who (individuals and groups) will benefit or lose from each option?
* What kinds of qualitative or quantitative analysis can you apply to the situation?
* How adequate/appropriate is your chosen response to the problem? What criteria did you use in making this assessment?