

## **Box 24-2**

# **Clinical Manifestations of Sickle Cell Anemia**

## **General**

Possible growth retardation

Chronic anemia (hemoglobin level of 6 to 9 g/dl)

Possible delayed sexual maturation

Marked susceptibility to sepsis

## **Vasoocclusive Crisis**

Pain in area(s) of involvement

Manifestations related to ischemia of involved areas

**Extremities:** Painful swelling of hands and feet (sickle cell dactylitis, or hand/foot syndrome), painful joints

**Abdomen:** Severe pain resembling acute surgical condition

**Cerebrum:** Stroke, visual disturbances

**Chest:** Symptoms resembling pneumonia, protracted episodes of pulmonary disease

**Liver:** Obstructive jaundice, hepatic coma

**Kidney:** Hematuria