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COVER
False-colored scanning electron micrograph of erythrocytes (diameter ~7 micrometers). Sickle cell disease results from an inherited defect of adult hemoglobin, the oxygen-carrying metalloprotein constitutent of erythrocytes. Common genetic variation associated with sickle cell disease severity modulates an adult-stage erythroid enhancer element of the BCL11A gene. Disruption of this element could ameliorate the disease by reestablishing expression of fetal hemoglobin. See pages 206 and 253.

Image: Dennis Kunkel Microscopy, Inc./Visuals Unlimited, Inc.

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