β-Thalassemia intermedia: morbidity uncovered

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Acknowledgments

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Curriculum Vitae

CURRICULUM VITAE

Khaled M. Musallam, M.D.

Khaled Musallam (1982, Amman, Jordan) graduated from the National Orthodox School in Amman, Jordan with high distinction (1999). He then continued his education at the American University of Beirut in Lebanon where he received his Bachelor of Science (B.Sc.) in Biology degree with distinction (2004) and Doctor of Medicine (M.D.) degree (2009). He then completed two years of postdoctoral Clinical Research Fellowship at the Division of Hematology and Oncology, Department of Internal Medicine, American University of Beirut Medical Center (2009-2011) and is currently a Clinical Research Fellow at the Angelo Bianchi Bonomi Haemophila and Thrombosis Center, Department of Medicine and Medical Specialties, IRCCS Ca' Granda Foundation Maggiore Policlinico Hospital in Milan, Italy; working under the supervision of Dr. Flora Peyvandi (2011-2012). He conducted the work described in this thesis during his three years of postdoctoral Clinical Research Fellowship.

Dr. Musallam has devoted his career to clinical research development ever since he was a medical student. For three years now, he has published four book chapters and over 110 articles in international peer-reviewed journals, many in leading general

medicine and hematology journals. His main research interests are the congenital anemias including β-thalassemia, especially thalassemia intermedia, and sickle cell disease; acquired anemias; as well as thrombosis, hemostasis, and vascular disease. Dr. Musallam has collaborated with investigators and research groups from the Middle East, Europe, USA, and Canada and follows the mentorship of leaders in the field of hemoglobinopathy research including Sir Professor David Weatherall and Professor David Nathan. He himself also mentored over ten physicians-in-training and fortified their interest in academic medicine.

Dr. Musallam is also a peer-reviewer for twenty medical journals, an Associate Editor for the European Journal of Internal Medicine, and an Associate Faculty Member at Faculty of 1000 Medicine.

Ali T. Taher, M.D., F.R.C.P.

Ali Taher (1960, Tyre, Lebanon) graduated from the Rawda High School in Beirut, Lebanon with distinction (1979). He then continued his education at the American University of Beirut in Lebanon where he received his Bachelor of Science (B.Sc.) in Biology degree (1982) and Doctor of Medicine (M.D.) degree (1986). He then completed a Residency in Internal Medicine at the American University of Beirut (1986-1989) and a Fellowship in Hematology and Oncology both from the American University of Beirut (1989-1991) and the Royal Free Hospital in London, UK (1991-1992). He was appointed as an Assistant Professor of Medicine at the Division of Hematology-Oncology, Department of Internal Medicine, American University of Beirut Medical Center in 1993, and was promoted to the rank of Professor in 2005. He also serves as Associate Chair for Research at the Department of Internal Medicine since 2011. In addition, he is a Consultant Hematologist at the Thalassemia Department of the Chronic Care Center in Hazmieh, Lebanon. He was recently appointed a Fellow of the Royal College of Physicians (2011).

Dr. Taher's research focuses on hemoglobinopathies, notably thalassemia and sickle cell disease, as well as thrombosis & hemostasis. Within thalassemia, his research interest relies in the detection of iron overload and the efficacy and safety of novel oral

iron chelators. Moreover, he investigates the pathophysiology and clinical implications of thalassemia intermedia. In thrombosis & hemostasis, he investigates inherited thrombophilia and bleeding disorders, as well the incidence and prophylaxis of venous thromboembolic events across medical and surgical settings.

Dr. Taher has been nationally and internationally active in the fields of thalassemia and hemoglobinopathies for more than 18 years. He has shown leadership in creating local and regional scientific interest groups and associations that promote partnerships in science and dissemination of knowledge both to physicians and the community.

Dr. Taher has published around 300 peer-reviewed articles in leading international hematology journals. He is also an author of three textbook chapters, an editor of the Thalassaemia International Federation Treatment Guidelines for Thalassemia, a reviewer for the top ten hematology journals, and an Associate Editor for the journal Hemoglobin. He is a regular chair and invited speaker at national and international meetings including the European Hematology Association, and among the faculty of the European School of Hematology.

Dr. Taher was the principal investigator on several clinical trials studying the oral iron chelator deferasirox including the ESCALATOR and THALASSA trials.