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β -Thalassemia intermedia: morbidity uncovered

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STELLINGEN

1. Transfusion-independent patients with β -thalassemia intermedia are protected from cardiac siderosis despite considerable iron overload attributed to increased intestinal iron absorption. *This thesis*
2. Splenectomized β -thalassemia intermedia patients at risk of developing thrombotic events may be identified through careful history taking and simple laboratory measures. *This thesis*
3. In the absence of interventions, patients with β -thalassemia intermedia experience an increasing number of complications with time. *This thesis*
4. Transfusion and iron chelation therapy use improves prognosis in patients with β -thalassemia intermedia. *This thesis*
5. Hemoglobinopathies pose a public health concern in resource-poor countries.
6. The introduction of safe transfusion practices and iron chelation therapy improved survival in patients with β -thalassemia major.
7. A definitive cure for β -thalassemia can only be achieved through gene therapy or bone marrow transplantation.
8. Prevention of β -thalassemia by carrier screening and prenatal diagnosis requires dedication and involvement of policy makers.
9. "When you laugh, you change. And when you change, the whole world changes." *Madan Kataria (1955-)*
10. "If you have accomplished all that you have planned for yourself, you have not planned enough." *Edward Everett Hale (1822-1909)*
11. "Logic will get you from A to B. Imagination will take you everywhere." *Albert Einstein (1879-1955)*
12. Living in the shadows one can never find light.