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"Comparison of cardiac status in Thalassemic patients with that of non-Thalassemic children "

"Roodpeyma Sh, Alebouyeh M, Kamali Z "



### Abstract:

Cardiac siderosis from transfused iron remained, despite iron chelation therapy with desferioxamine (DFO), the major cause of death in Thalassemia major. In a retrospective study, we reviewed 67 patients with Thalassemia major and the same number of non-thalassemic children and analyzed factors affecting cardiac involvement. Ejection fraction (EF) and shortening fraction (SF) of Thalassemic group was lower than that of non-thalassemic and difference was significant ( $P<0.001$ ). In Thalassemic patients there was inverse relationship between serum ferritin and cardiac OF and SF. Patients with optimal compliance had lower serum ferritin ( $P<0.001$ ). 16 patients showed some kind of cardiac involvement. Older ( $P<0.001$ ), had lower SF ( $P<0.05$ ) and late onset of DFO therapy ( $P<0.001$ ). We concluded that patients with Thalassemia major, despite iron chelation therapy with DFO, had weaker cardiac performance compared to non-thalassemic children. In these patients cardiac complications occurred in older age group with late onset of DFO treatment. Echocardiographic measurement of SF has prognostic value.

### Keywords:

Thalassemia major . Desferal . Desferioxamine . Cardiomyopathy

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