1st International Working Group on Thalassemia: IS IT TIME TO REVISIT CLASSIFICATION OF THALASSEMIA SYNDROMES?

CAMPUS OF HEMATOLOGY
"Franco e Piera Cutino"
A.O.R. "Villa Sofia - V. Cervello"
Palermo (Italy)

September 15-16, 2017

Chairmen:
Antonis Kattamis, Ali Taher, Khaled Musallam and Aurelio Maggio
**Rationale**

Recent data suggest that the survival of well-treated patients with Thalassemia Major is now similar to that of Intermediate Thalassemia Intermedia (Vitrano et al., 2016, BJH). In addition, retrospective data on 4,943 subjects with a heterozygote state of β-thalassemia, suggest that, even in patients defined as Thalassemia carriers (Thalassemia Minor), there is an increase in morbidity (cirrhosis, kidney disease, etc.) compared with the non-thalassemic population of subjects not heterozygote (Graffeo et al., 2017, AJH). These data call for a potential revision of the clinical classification of thalassemia based on strict categories of severity towards a classification including a "continuum" of the same disease divided into that manifests in stages. The advantages of this new classification would consist of:

1) expand the use of chelation therapy and transfusion to the ‘traditionally’ less severe forms of Thalassemia Syndromes or whose management was not commonly considered;

2) reduce the morbidity and mortality of such less severe forms of Thalassemia Syndromes;

3) reduce health care costs associated with the treatment of these uncontrolled complications (cirrhosis, etc.) through prevention;

4) expand the number of patients who are eligible to innovative therapies;

5) review the indications for prenatal diagnosis in Thalassemia Major.

The aim of this first International Working Group on Thalassemia is to discuss recommendations for initial evaluation and staging assessment of Thalassemia Syndromes.
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<td>Kunle Adekile</td>
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<td>Yesim Aydinok</td>
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<td>Adriana Ceci</td>
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<td>Lakhmir S. Chawla</td>
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<td>Mahmoud Yassin</td>
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Day 1: Friday, September 15, 2017 (9h training sessions)

08.00 | 08.30  Registrations

08.30 | 08.45  Welcome address
Antonis Kattamis (Greece), Aurelio Maggio (Italy),
Khaled Musallam (UK UAE), Ali Taher (Lebanon)

08.45 | 09.00  Greetings from local Authorities

09.00 | 09.15  Introduction: Is it time to revisit classification of
Thalassemia Syndromes?
Aurelio Maggio (Italy)

SESSION I

THALASSEMAIA MAJOR AND ANTIVIRAL TREATMENT
Chairpersons: Antonis Kattamis (Greece),
Antonio Piga (Italy)

09.15 | 09.30  Transfusion Therapy: what it has been changing
with respect to safety and control of iron loading?
Yesim Aydinok (Turkey)

09.30 | 09.45  The future of thalassemia patients without HCV
infection: a new history
Vito Di Marco (Italy)

09.45 | 10.30  Preordered Interventions: which is the state of art
in transfusion safety and anti-viral treatment of
Thalassemia Syndromes worldwide?
Comparing experiences from France, India, Iran,
Italy, Saudi Arabia: Caterina Borgna Pignatti (Italy),
Olivier Hermine (France), Mehran Karimi (Iran),
Farrukh Shah (KSA), Alok Srivastava (India)

10.30 | 10.45  Discussion

10.45 | 11.00  Coffee Break

SESSION II

THALASSEMAIA INTERMEDIA
Chairpersons: Caterina Borgna Pignatti (Italy),
Vip Viprakasit (Thailand)
11.00 | 11.20 Morbidity and current management of Thalassemia Intermedia
*Maria Domenica Cappellini (Italy)*

11.20 | 11.40 Thalassemia Intermedia: is disease morbidity as we know it today less severe than Thalassemia Major?
*Khaled Mussalam (UK UAE)*

11.40 | 12.30 Preordered Interventions: which is the state of art in Thalassemia Intermedia management worldwide?
Comparing experiences from Iran, Italy, Malaysia, Qatar:
*Mahmoud Hajipour (Iran),
Ibrahim Hishamshah (Malaysia), Paolo Ricchi (Italy),
Mahamoud Yassin (Qatar)*

12.30 | 13.00 Discussion

13.00 | 14.00 Light Lunch

### SESSION III

**THE NEW ERA OF CHELATION TREATMENT**
*Chairpersons: Adriana Ceci (Italy), Alan Cohen (USA)*

14.00 | 14.15 How the era of the new chelators is changing prognosis of Thalassemia Syndromes
*John Porter (UK)*

14.15 | 14.30 Effectiveness and safety of 10 different regimens for controlling iron overloading in thalassemia major
*Aurelio Maggio (Italy)*

*Ali Taher (Lebanon)*

14.45 | 15.30 Preordered Interventions: which is the state of art in chelation management of Thalassemia Syndromes worldwide?
Comparing experiences from Italy, Kuwait, Oman, US: *Kunle Adekile (Kuwait), Shahina Daar (Oman),
Aldo Filosa (Italy), Vijay G. Sankaran (US)*

15.30 | 15.45 Discussion
HIGHLIGHTS IN MANAGEMENT OF THALASSEmia Syndromes in Eastern Countries

Chairpersons: Marie-Charlotte Bouesseau (Switzerland), Suthat Fucharoen (Thailand)

15.45 | 16.05 Management of Thalassemia Syndromes in Egypt: what it has been changing during the last 10 years? Amal El-Beshlawy (Egypt)

16.05 | 16.25 Current management of Thalassemia Syndromes in Thailand: past, present and future Vip Viprakasit (Thailand)

16.25 | 16.45 Discussion

MRI AND CURRENT MANAGEMENT OF THALASSEmia Syndromes

Chairpersons: Gian Luca Forni (Italy), Paul Telfer (UK)

16.45 | 17.05 The impact of MRI in changing prognosis of Thalassemia Major Dudley Pennell (UK)

17.05 | 17.25 The MIOT network: an Italian model for management of Thalassemia Syndromes Alessia Pepe (Italy)

17.25 | 18.15 Preordered Interventions: which is the state of art in MRI facilities worldwide? Comparing experiences from Egypt, France, India, Saudi Arabia, Thailand and US: Amal El-Beshlawy (Egypt), Olivier Hermine (France), Alok Srivastava (India), Farrukh Shah (KSA), Vip Viprakasit (Thailand), Vijay G. Sankaran (US)

18.15 | 18.30 Discussion

NEW STRATEGY FOR THE TREATMENT OF THALASSEmia Syndromes

Chairpersons: Paolo Moi (Italy), Ali Taher (Lebanon)
18.30 | 18.50  Highlights on gene therapy in haemoglobinopathies  
            Marina Cavazzana (France)

18:50 | 19.10  New pharmacological approaches for increasing hemoglobin levels in Thalassemia Syndromes  
            Antonio Piga (Italy)

19.10 | 19.30  Conclusions  
            Aurelio Maggio (Italy)

19.30 | 19.45  Hepcidin and iron overload  (NO CME)  
            Sponsored talk by La Jolla Pharmaceutical  
            Lakhmir S. Chawla (US)

Day 2: Saturday, September 16, 2017  (4h15 training sessions)

SESSION VII  (Simultaneous sessions)  
Panel discussion on RECOMMENDATIONS FOR INITIAL EVALUATION AND STAGING ASSESSMENT OF THALASSEMA SYNDROMES

08.30 | 10.30  PANEL I  
            Chairpersons: Alan Cohen (US), Antonis Kattamis (Greece)  

08.30 | 10.30  PANEL II  
            Chairpersons: Amal El-Beshlawy (Egypt), Khaled Musalam (UK UAE)  
            Discussants: Kunle Adekile, Yesim Aydinok, Caterina Borgna Pignatti, Maria Domenica Cappellini, Adriana Ceci, Shahina Daar, Vito Di Marco, Aldo Filosa, Mahmoud Hajipour, Ibrahim Hishamshah, Aurelio Maggio, Dudley Pennell, Alessia Pepe, Mahmoud Yassin
10.30 | 10.45 Coffee Break

PLENARY

Chairpersons: Ali Taher (Lebanon), Paul Telfer (UK)

10.45 | 11.15 Presentation of Panel I - Recommendations for initial evaluation and staging assessment of Thalassemia Syndromes

Alan Cohen (US),
Antonis Kattamis (Greece)

11.15 | 11.45 Presentation of Panel II - Recommendations for initial evaluation and staging assessment of Thalassemia Syndromes

Amal El-Beshlawy (Egypt),
Khaled Mussalam (UK UAE)

11.45 | 12.30 Discussion

12.30 | 13.00 Final proposal and future strategy

Aurelio Maggio (Italy)

13.00 | 13.15 CME questionnaire

13.15 | 13.30 Closing remarks

Aurelio Maggio (Italy)

13.30 | 14.30 Light Lunch

14.30 | 16.00 Poster Session I on

THALASSEMA MAJOR AND ANTIVIRAL TREATMENT, THALASSEMA INTERMEDIA AND THE NEW ERA OF CHELATION TREATMENT

16.00 | 17.30 Poster Session II on

HIGHLIGHTS IN MANAGEMENT OF THALASSEMA SYNDROMES IN EASTERN COUNTRIES, MRI AND CURRENT MANAGEMENT OF THALASSEMA SYNDROMES AND NEW STRATEGY FOR THE TREATMENT OF THALASSEMA SYNDROMES

17.30 | 17.45 Conclusions

Aurelio Maggio (Italy)
Published on
International Journal of Molecular Sciences

as Special Issue "Thalassemia in 2017"

The results of this meeting will be published as Special Issue on Anemia Journal!
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REGISTRATION FEE € 400,00 (22% VAT not included)

It includes: attendance at the scientific sessions, coffee breaks and buffet lunches as indicated in the scientific program, congress badge, congress kit

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OFFICIAL LANGUAGE

The official language of the Meeting will be English. No simultaneous translation will be provided.