

## Immunological Assessment of Interleukin-6 and 8 in Baghdad Patients with $\beta$ -thalassemia

Nabaa Saeed Aneed<sup>1</sup>, Rusul Kareem Fadhil<sup>2</sup>, Sarah Majid kadhum<sup>3</sup>, Nada Mohammed Sadoon<sup>4</sup>,  
Basim Jawad Hussein<sup>5</sup>, Ali Jalal Abood<sup>6</sup>

<sup>1</sup>University of Wasit , college of Dentistry, Iraq, nalabiad@uowasit.edu.iq

<sup>2</sup>University of Wasit - College of Dentistry, Iraq, Ralmaliky@uowasit.edu.iq

<sup>3</sup>University of Wasit - College of Dentistry, Iraq, salquraishi@uowasit.edu.iq

<sup>4</sup>University of Wasit - college of Agriculture, namohammed@uowasit.edu.iq

<sup>5</sup>Republic of Iraq Ministry of Agriculture, Veterinary Department, bassimj89@gmail.com

<sup>6</sup>Ministry of health dojjkjj@gmail.com

### KEYWORDS

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### ABSTRACT

A genetic disorder known as  $\beta$ -thalassemia major is characterized by a decreased rate of hemoglobin synthesis, which results in inadequate binding of at least one globin chain. Depending on the exact illness, the actuality of deficiencies may vary. The study's model included participants who were not certain they had  $\beta$ -thalassemia, and a control group of fifty people who did not have the disease. The blood tests were assembled by the Medical city Thalassemia Center. between June 1st and October 31, 2023, to be exact. The purpose of this study was to evaluate the serum immunological marker levels, namely IL-6 and IL-8, in Iraqi patients suffering from  $\beta$ -thalassemia. The Panel has approved the survey design for the postgraduate examinations at the School of Baghdad. Human interleukin-6 (IL-6) and interleukin-8 (IL-8) unions were evaluated using the protein-associated immunosorbent assay (ELISA). The review's findings demonstrated that individuals diagnosed with  $\beta$ -thalassemia had notably elevated blood levels of IL-6 and IL-8, which is relevant information. IL-6 foci measuring  $33.90 \pm 3.42$  pg/ml were seen in  $\beta$ -thalassemia patients, whereas the reference group showed levels of  $25.21 \pm 2.93$  pg/ml. Comparably, the benchmark group's estimated IL-8 level was found to be  $76.86 \pm 23.11$  pg/ml, but the patient gathering revealed a higher IL-8 degree of  $217.10 \pm 44.26$  pg/ml. The results of this investigation demonstrate that individuals with thalassemia exhibit an insusceptible dysregulation characterized by concurrent inflammation and immunosuppression.

### 1. Introduction

A genetic haematological condition known as beta thalassemia is characterized by a reduced amount of beta-globin, which prevents this specific protein from forming in the body. Hemoglobin is composed of alpha and  $\beta$ -globin subunits. Hemoglobin, a component of erythrocytes often referred to as red platelets (RBCs), is necessary for the transfer of oxygen. Taking into account the actual degree of infection,  $\beta$ -thalassemia is classified into three distinct clinical phases. Patients exhibiting varying degrees of reality include those with  $\beta$ -thalassemia major (B+/B0 or B0/B0),  $\beta$ -thalassemia medium (B+/B+ or B+/B0), and  $\beta$ -thalassemia minor (B+ or B0). Remember that not all of the information about  $\beta$ -thalassemia minor's potential side effects was definitively established. Conversely, People affected by  $\beta$ -thalassemia essential exhibit increased fragility and necessitate

established blood ties. Undoubtedly attractive,  $\beta$ -thalassemia presents a subtle sign of fragility and does not require conventional blood bondings (Khalaf et al., 2023 Lama et al., 2021). Individuals with  $\beta$ -thalassaemia have a wide range of immunological abnormalities, such as severe impairments in neuropil function, reduced macrophage phagocytosis and clearance of pathogens, and reduced cytokine production. The aforementioned deficiencies are quite important given the comprehensive understanding of the illness (Ali et al., 2017). Most people understand interleukin-6 (IL-6) and interleukin-8 (IL-8) to be the basic building blocks of the favorable to fiery reaction. It has been suggested that the pathophysiology of  $\beta$ -thalassaemia may involve the plasma groups of these cytokines (ChD, A. et al., 2014). It is well acknowledged that interleukin-6 (IL-6) and interleukin-8 (IL-8) have a significant role in promoting a fiery response. It is extremely important to consider the predicted implications of these cytokines' plasma groups in the pathophysiology of  $\beta$ -thalassaemia. Expert-directed evaluation revealed that individuals diagnosed with  $\beta$ -thalassaemia had higher levels of IL-8 than the reference group, which consisted of individuals without the disease. A decrease in hemoglobin union characterizes thalassemia, a genetic condition (Shahraki-Vahed et al., 2017, Khalaf et al., 2022).

Individuals diagnosed with thalassemia major (TM) need periodic blood transfusions to maintain adequate levels of hemoglobin, a fundamental metric that ensures appropriate oxygenation of vital organs. Individuals affected by this issue confront a variety of adverse consequences arising from the process of bonding, including but not limited to illnesses, autoimmune diseases, and alloimmunization (Naas et al., 2023). In terms of innate immunity, individuals identified as having (TM) exhibit reduced levels of useful activity in neutrophils and regular killer cells (NKC). On the other hand, it has been observed that proinflammatory cytokines, including TNF- $\alpha$ , IL-1 $\kappa$ , IL-6, and IL-8, are elevated in the blood of individuals who are bothered by the disease (Bazi et al., 2016). Interleukin-6 (IL-6) is a cytokine that significantly impacts immune system and non-safe cell activities. It continuously exhibits chemical-like behavior and disrupts homeostatic processes. Additionally, it demonstrates how to set subordinates up for supporting and mitigating actions. Numerous cytokines have been linked to persistently provocative conditions such as thyroiditis, immune system disorders, periodontitis, and inflammation of the rheumatic joint (Mohammed et al., 2022).

Although the rapid synthesis of IL-6 serves as a protective factor against infection and tissue damage, excessive production of this cytokine is acknowledged to contribute to the recovery of certain illnesses. Furthermore, it has been shown that individuals with thalassemia exhibit aberrant levels of IL-6 (Abbas et al., 2019). Bioactive cytokine interleukin-6 (IL-6) is known for its role as a stress signal and pyrogenic expert. It plays a crucial role in the hepatocytes' recruitment of highly provocative stage proteins (Al-Zohairy et al., 2015). Interleukin-8 (IL-8) is a vital mediator that contributes to the stimulating cycle by exerting its influence on neutrophil recruitment and degranulation, hence fulfilling a crucial function. When oxidative pressure is present, interleukin-8 is more readily absorbed, which leads to the activation of inflammatory cells and an increase in oxidative pressure in middle-aged individuals. Interleukin-8 thus takes on a crucial role as a marker for restricted irritation (Vlahopoulos et al., 1999). The intradermal infusion of IL-8 has been discovered to have chemoattractant effects in light of the late academic evaluation. In any event, studies have demonstrated its ability to suppress leukocytes' hold on endothelial cells when fundamentally managed. This analysis suggests that the cytokine under investigation may have varying capacities to regulate stimulating cycles. Consequently, in order to get some insight into the pathophysiology of GVHD and thalassemia, it is imperative to contemplate the potential significance of alterations about the union, generating site, or serum quantities of IL-8. In order to evaluate the concept mentioned above, a study was conducted in which individuals diagnosed with B-thalassemia were evaluated for blood levels of IL-8 before and during bone marrow transplantation (BMT). The same illness and others have been the subject of several investigations, including those by Abd et al. (2019), Hasoon et al. (2020), and Hanoon et al. (2018).

## Immune System in $\beta$ -thalassemia Patients

Changes in the amount and makeup of safe cells, together with alterations in the cytokine profile of the typical safe structure, are indicative of thymus dysfunctions. Elsayh et al. (2016) discovered that partially settled TM exhibits increased numbers of total leukocytes, neutrophils, and lymphocytes, indicating the existence of a fragile, vital, and flammable state. According to the survey, patients with TM had a noticeably larger decline in their neutrophils' capacity to be helpful than patients without TM (Ghaffari et al., 2008). As shown in Table 2-2 (Kyriakou et al., 2001), elevated levels of surface particles, such as CD11b, CD18, and CD69 on monocytes and CD11b, CD18, CD35, CD44, and CD67 on neutrophils, have been found to not be completely indicative of TM. There is no explanation for the amazing components that contribute to neutrophils' reduced usefulness in TM patients. The gradual escalation of oxidative stress has the potential to disrupt phagocyte function (Amer et al., 2005). Wholesome deficiency has been identified as a major factor influencing these patients' normal executioner cell (NKC) mobility (Atasever et al., 2006). Either way, a deeper understanding of the underlying mechanisms is necessary (Arslan et al., 2013). Previous analyses have demonstrated the unique confirmation of elevated levels of proinflammatory cytokines, specifically TNF- $\alpha$  and IL-1 $\beta$ , in the course configuration that is not guaranteed to have TM (Kyriakou et al., 2001). Started macrophages are responsible for coordinating the proinflammatory mediator neopterin. It has been shown that TM may not always exhibit elevated neopterin levels that differ from those of the benchmark group (Gharagozloo et al., 2009). Additionally, elevated levels of C-receptive protein were seen in those who were diagnosed with TM (El-Rasheidy et al., 2016). (jyA YILMAZ et al., 2001) interleukin-8, as well as interleukin-6 (El-Rasheidy et al., 2016; Pratummo et al., 2014). The humoral factors that contribute to innate resistance appear to be enhanced in TM, despite the limited amount of cell components present.

According to Ghatreh-Samani et al. (2016), oxidative pressure may contribute to this oddity in addition to other noted characteristics. The collaboration of B lymphocytes in the era of auto- and alloantibodies targeting bonded erythrocytes addresses a critical aspect of humoral resistance within the context of bonding therapy. Individuals diagnosed with TM have a greater quantity of B lymphocytes in comparison to those without the illness (Al-Awadhi et al., 2010). Compared to the benchmark group, individuals with cross-over myelitis (TM) have been seen to have a larger proportion of B lymphocytes that exhibit an administrative aggregation, as indicated by the presence of CD19, CD38, and CD24 (Zahran et al., 2016). Furthermore, previous research has shown that there is no truly significant difference in the rate of B cell apoptosis between those with TM and those without the illness (Elsayh et al., 2016). There was a notable variation in IgA immunoglobulin levels between those diagnosed with TM and those without the condition. Furthermore, previous studies have not shown any notable differences in the levels of immunoglobulin G (IgG), immunoglobulin M (IgM), immunoglobulin E (IgE), or supplement components C3 and C4 (Ghaffari et al., 2011). In a separate test, individuals with thalassemia major (TM) who received standard iron chelation therapy did not exhibit significantly different immunoglobulin levels from healthy individuals with almost no medical conditions (Tourkantoni et al., 2008).

## 2. Materials And Methods

The lengthy timeframe between May 2023 and October 2023 was the focus of the assessment. The medical city Thalassemia Center's research facilities and the College of Baghdad's Establishment of Hereditary Designing and Biotechnology for Postgraduate Investigations served as the primary locations for the analysis. gaining members' consent and achieving moral independence. The chamber of the Foundation of Hereditary Designing and Biotechnology at the College of Baghdad has approved the present examination. Each member's marked prepared assent had to be arranged for consideration in the review.

### Sample Size and Requirements for Selection

The investigation was conducted as a planned report. Patients treated at the Thalassemia Community for Ibn Albaladi who were found to have substantial  $\beta$ -thalassemia were remembered for this study. In light of Hb electrophoresis, fifty individuals were identified as having  $\beta$ -thalassemia major, albeit the clinical specialists in the middle did not completely confirm their whole blood type. Additionally, a benchmark group of fifty individuals in good health were consolidated by the investigation.

### Disqualified Criteria

Those who were diagnosed with Hepatitis B and C, recipients of prescription thalassemia, and HIV/Helps patients were not included in the review. Five milliliters of peripheral venous blood were drawn from each participant, including the solid benchmark group. After being extracted from the left cephalic veins, the samples were stored without test tubes for heparin. The centrifugation cycle for the serum lasted 10 minutes at a speed of 300 cycles per minute. In order to operate with protection, the example was transferred into Eppendorf tubes and maintained at a low temperature of  $-20^{\circ}\text{C}$ . The standards provided by the manufacturers guided the evaluation of the IL-6 and IL-8 aggregates. To accomplish this activity, impetus-associated immune sorbent assay (ELISA) units were used. These units were obtained from Bioassay Development Lab, a Chinese organization.

### Statistical Analysis

The software known as the Statistical Analysis System (SAS) was utilized to evaluate the influence of different variables on research parameters. In order to provide a meaningful comparison of means, the Least Significant Difference (LSD) test was carried out in this study using the Analysis of Variation (ANOVA). Furthermore, the Chi-square test was employed to compare the percentages, with a significance threshold of (0.01).

### 3. Results And Discussion:

Eighteen blood samples in all were taken; forty of the samples came from the sick group and the other forty from the control group.

#### Serological Study

#### Assurance of the grouping of IL-6 and IL-8 by ELISA:

In the current study, IL-6 levels were shown to be statistically significantly higher in  $\beta$ -thalassemia patients ( $33.90 \pm 3.42$  pg/ml) than in the control group ( $25.21 \pm 2.93$  pg/ml). Furthermore, the results concerning IL-8 show that the subjects in the patient group had significantly higher IL-8 levels (mean  $\pm$  standard deviation:  $217.10 \pm 44.26$  pg/ml) than the subjects in the control group (mean  $\pm$  standard deviation:  $76.86 \pm 23.11$  pg/ml), as shown by the information displayed in Table 1, Figures 1, and 2.

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Table 1: Expression of IL-6 and IL-8 (pg/ml) in correlation between control and patients.

Elisa	Patient	control	P value
IL6 ( pg/ml)	$33.90 \pm 3.42$ (26.81- 38.95)	$25.21 \pm 2.93$ (17.19- 23.55)	<b>0.0001#</b>
IL8 (pg/ml)	$217.10 \pm 44.26$ (145.23- 333.55)	$76.86 \pm 23.11$ (26.82-118.52)	<b>0.0001#</b>

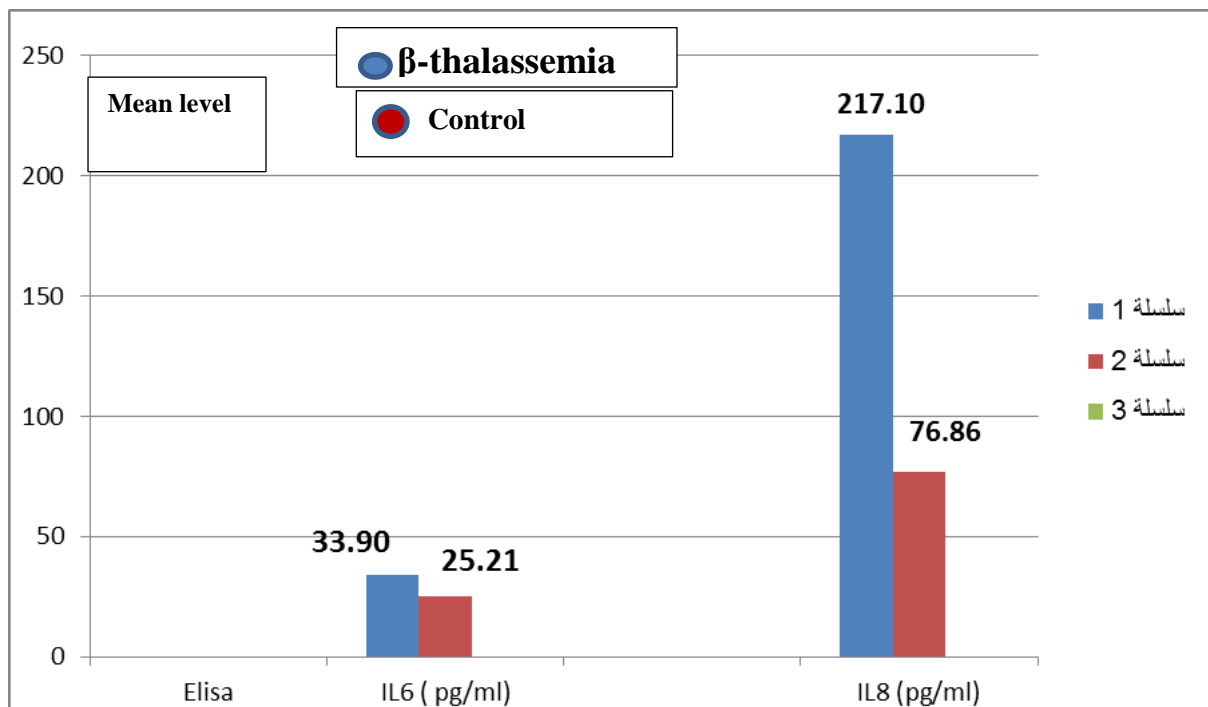


Figure 1: Correlation between IL-6 and IL-8 levels in patients and controls.

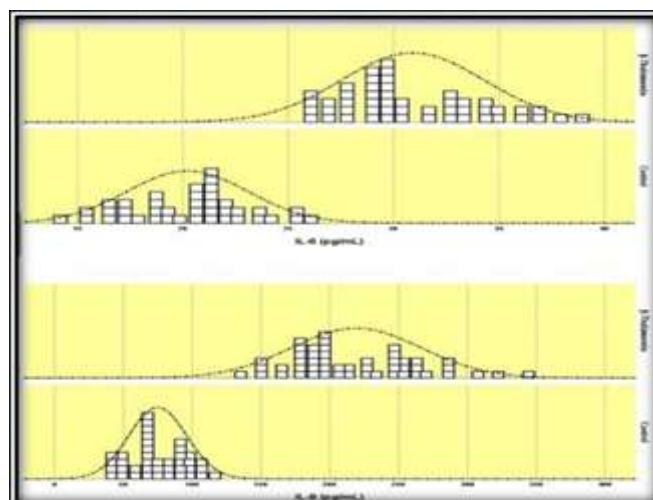


Figure 2: Correlation between IL-6 and IL-8 levels in patients and controls.

One of the key characteristics of thalassemia is an imbalance in the globin chain combination, which is essential for the production of hemoglobin. This further contributes to the improvement of pallor by preventing erythropoiesis, the process that produces red platelets. Unexpected red platelets and persistent mildness may both set off a chain reaction that might result in the production of powerful, provocative cytokines such as interleukin-6 (IL-6) and interleukin-8 (IL-8) (Sanchez et al., 2022). People who have beta-thalassemia have a range of immunological abnormalities, such as significant deficits in neutrophil and macrophage phagocytic and killing capacities, in addition to modified cytokine production. The deficiencies that were previously noted have significant clinical implications. Interleukin-6 (IL-6) and interleukin-8 (IL-8) have been shown to have a vital role in promoting fiery reactions. A suggestion has been made that the cytokine plasma groups may have a role in the development of  $\beta$ -thalassemia (Toumpanakis et al., 2007). Multifunctional cytokine interleukin-6 (IL-6) influences several physiological systems, including the respiratory system, in addition to its well-



known functions in inflammation and the immune response. Scientific literature has demonstrated the relationship between the cytokine IL-6 and its receptors, glycoprotein 130 (gp130) and IL-6R $\alpha$ . These receptors have distinct roles in IL-6 flagging and are located on the phone layer. The formation of a functional complex of film proteins is triggered by the interaction between interleukin-6 (IL-6) and its receptors. The activation of two sources, specifically the Janus Kinase/Signal Transducer Establishment of Record (JAK/Detail) and the Mitogen-Started Protein Kinase (MAPK) flood, is handled by gp130. PIAS proteins, SOCS proteins, and tyrosine phosphatases are anticipated to play a crucial role in the completion of IL-6 flagging. Because of the interchange between flagging routes and flagging silencers, the cell's response to IL is still unclear. 2018; Hanoon et al. Those who were diagnosed with beta-thalassemia major had elevated levels of interleukin-6 and interleukin-8 in their plasma, which is consistent with the findings of this research . The review found that, in comparison to the benchmark group, individuals with beta-thalassemia had overall higher levels of IL-8 ( $p < 0.001$ ).

Furthermore, in comparison to the reference group, there was a truly important increase in plasma IL-6 foci among the beta-thalassemia patients ( $p = 0.01$ ). Raised levels of serum ferritin, interleukin-6, and adiponectin have been positively correlated with  $\beta$ -thalassemia major in juvenile patients. Patients who differed from controls in appearance had essentially higher levels of C-responsive protein (CRP) and interleukin-6 (IL6) ( $p < 0.001$ ,  $p = 0.04$ , independently). Additionally, a research was conducted to measure the serum ferritin, interleukin 2 receptor, and interleukin 8 (IL-8) levels in a partner who was not confirmed to have beta-thalassemia major. The results of this investigation demonstrated that people with thalassemia had two social interactions when their normal levels of IL-8 were elevated. Remarkably, the subset of individuals who had undergone a splenectomy had a significant degree of IL-8 divergence from the bundle of patients who had not had their spleen removed.

#### 4. Conclusion

Individuals diagnosed with  $\beta$ -thalassemia had significantly higher levels of IL-6 and IL-8 compared to the reference group, which is made up of individuals without the illness. Hemopoietic growth factors are developed through a series of tightly regulated cycles that function to respond to various hemopoietic advancements in a flexible and coordinated manner.

#### Declarations

**Ethical Approval:** This does not require ethical approval.

**Conflicts of interest:** The writers say they have none.

**Contributions of the Authors:** I hereby attest that each of the authors listed on the title page has significantly contributed to the idea and planning of the research, has carefully read the manuscript, has verified the veracity and correctness of the data and its interpretation, and has given permission for its submission.

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