

From A to Z

On Hepatitis C in Thalassemia

**Comprehensive Guidance for
Medical Practitioners**

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Preface

Thalassemia patients have a high prevalence of hepatitis C virus (HCV) infections. Recent improvements in the survival of these patients are a result of more services for the control of iron overload, the provision of safe blood, and better control of complications. Today, liver disease is the main cause of mortality in thalassemia patients throughout the world. Unfortunately, there are inadequate policy in most thalassemia centers for the control of HCV infections. Thalassemia patients with HCV infections pose a real dilemma in the management of this infection, and they must have access to adequate professional counseling from health care workers, in addition, the health system should provide appropriate diagnostic and therapeutic options. Therefore, I considered it imperative to provide a book from A to Z for health professionals regarding the epidemiology, screening, diagnosis and treatment of HCV infection in this high risk group. My hope is for improvements in the control of HCV in thalassemia patients in the world, especially in the Mediterranean region.