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Pregnancy with Thalassemia Minor - A Case Report

[illegible]

[illegible]

Mrs. [illegible], a 20 years female patient presented to the antenatal OPD with complaints of amenorrhoea of 6 weeks duration and generalised weakness. On examination she was of average built, debility, moderately pale with no oedema, lymphadenopathy or icterus. Pulse and BP were within normal limits and chest was clear. Abdominal examination revealed no abnormality and P/V examination revealed a bulky uterus which was anteverted and mobile with free fornices. Haemogram and peripheral smear showed hypochromic microcytic picture. Hb electrophoresis revealed the patient to be a case of thalassemia minor. Her blood group was B-ve.

She was a second gravida and had a FTND 2 years back. She had a female baby with delayed development of milestones. On further evaluation and haematological investigations the baby was found to be a case of thalassemia major with blood group AB negative. The husband was examined and found out to be a case of thalassemia minor with blood group A-ve.

The first baby was advised regular blood transfusions along with iron chelation. She was advised bone marrow transplantation for long term survival. Keeping in mind the risk of the second baby being affected with thalassemia major the patient was advised periodic antenatal checkups for the same. She underwent chorionic villous biopsy at CMC, Vellore and the second foetus was diagnosed to be having thalassemia minor.

The patient continued uneventfully with the second pregnancy, the couple planning for a bone marrow transplant for the first child in case it tides over the [illegible].

The patient had a normal full term vaginal delivery and delivered a healthy male child weighing 2.8 kg. This baby was found to be thalassemia minor confirming the prenatal test.

This case is being presented in view of the rare incidence of the disease in children born to parents of [illegible] [illegible] marriage. The problem is compounded by the fact that the blood group of the first [illegible] diagnosed as thalassemia major and needing frequent transfusions is AB negative. As far as searched this is the only such case in Orissa.