

## INVESTIGATION OF PREVALENCE HCV, AMONG THALASSEMIA PATIENTS IN THI-QAR PROVINCE SOUTHERN IRAQ

RIYAD EDAN ABED<sup>1</sup>, ALI N. SALMAN<sup>2</sup>, AWATIF H. ISSA<sup>3</sup> & ALI A. KAREEM<sup>4</sup>

<sup>1</sup>Biology Department, Education College for Pure Science, Thi-Qar University, Iraq

<sup>2</sup>College of Nursing, Thi-Qar University, Iraq

<sup>3</sup>College of Science, Basrah University, Basrah, Iraq

<sup>4</sup>Physician Al Imam AL Hussain Teaching Hospital, Iraq

### ABSTRACT

#### Objective

This study aimed to detect the extent of prevalence of HCV infection among thalassemia patients, who attended a hereditary blood diseases center.

#### Method

In the duration of the study in the period from September 2016 to March 2017, a total of 645 patients with thalassemia in the hereditary blood diseases center, in Thi Qar have been screened and 91 patients have been shown clinical evidences with hepatitis C virus and performed the clinical examination of hepatitis C patient's samples via (ELISA) test.

#### Results

91 from 645 thalassemia patients were infected with HCV (14.10%), 46 males and 45 females, 94 splenectomies, 59 male and 35 females, also that blood group O was widespread and AB was least.

#### Conclusions

Viral hepatitis C is less prevalent in thalassaemic patients in Thi-Qar province (14.10%) from other cities. The important of the routine screening of Blood Donor Program in limited infection between blood recipients or their products.

**KEYWORDS:** Thalassemia, Hepatitis C Virus, Splenectomy