

Thalassaemia Services Victoria

Thalassaemia Services, based at Southern Health, Monash Medical Centre, Clayton Campus, provides an integrated service, which includes both clinical and diagnostic services. It is a treatment clinic caring for patients with haemoglobinopathies and related blood disorders throughout their lives.

The following services are available at the Thalassaemia Services:

- Information about haemoglobinopathies
- Genetic counseling
- Diagnostic services that can arrange testing to clarify status for haemoglobinopathies
- Partner testing
- Assessment of risk of severe disease in offspring of couples who are carriers of haemoglobinopathies
- Discussion of prenatal options
- Assistance with decision making
- Arranging prenatal testing
- On site DNA laboratory
- Telephone advice to doctors regarding patient's results and further testing
- Current information about haemoglobinopathies to interested health professionals

Thalassaemia Services is staffed by Dr Don Bowden (Head Thalassaemia Services, Victoria), Carolyn Cameron (Associate Genetic Counselor)and Libby Reid (Nurse Unit Manager) Coordinator of the clinic.

The clinic is open:

- (1) For clinical treatment (transfusion) services: Tuesday to Friday, from 7am to 4.30pm; and Saturday from 7am to 2.30pm;
- (2) For clinical appointments: Tuesdays 1.30pm to 3pm; Wednesdays 1.30pm to 4pm; and Thursdays 1.30pm to 4.30pm.
- (3) Urgent appointments will be available outside of these hours by arrangement with Dr Bowden or Libby Reid ph. (03) 9594 2756.

Copies of test results and a referral letter from the patient's doctor can be faxed to (03) 9594 6648. Patient details are also required to arrange an appointment.

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This flow chart was developed to assist with the identification of carriers of haemoglobinopathies for the purpose of genetic counseling, treatment and management (if required).

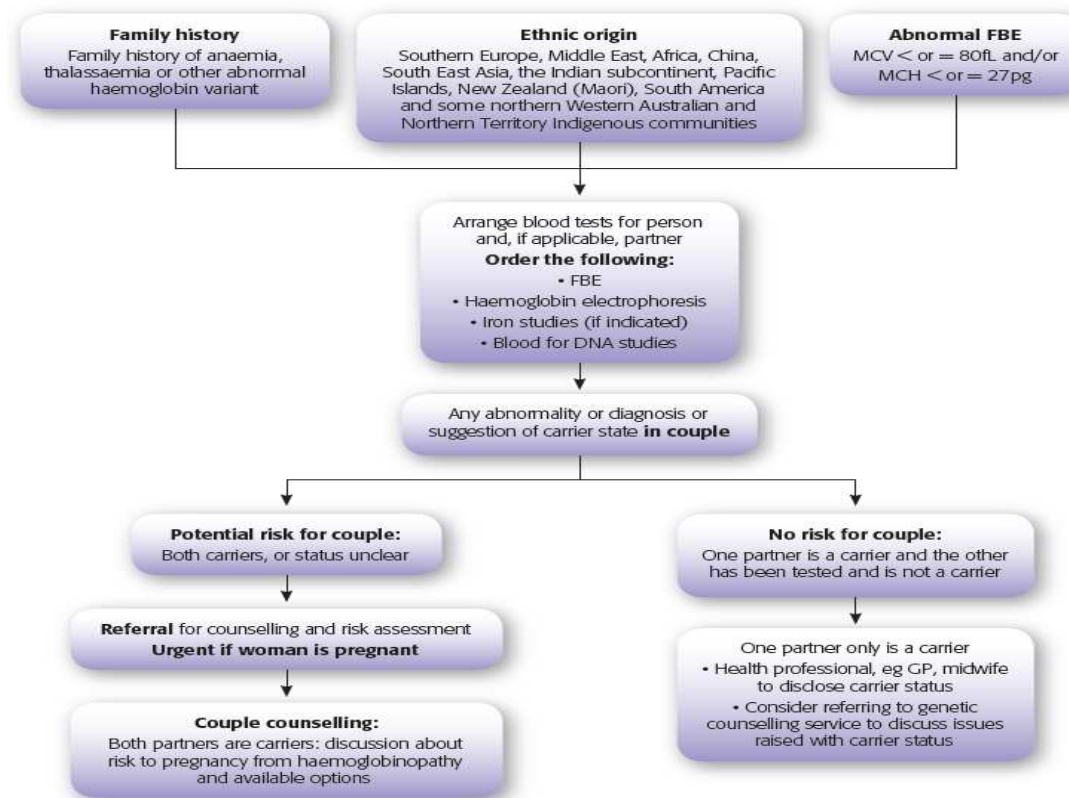
For more detailed information on haemoglobinopathies either:

1. Refer to website: www.gpgenetics.edu.au and click on "Haemoglobinopathies"
2. For hard copy of the information pack call the **Thalassaemia Australia Inc.**
Ph: (03) 9888 2211 or email on info@thalassaemia.org.au
3. For general clinical and counseling advice call either:
Monash Medical Centre Medical Therapy Unit Ph: (03) 9594 2756
Fax: (03) 9594 6648

Royal Woman's Hospital Thalassaemia Clinic Ph: (03) 8345 2180 Fax: (03) 8345 2179

Mercy Hospital for Woman Genetics Department Ph: (03) 8458 4250 Fax: (03) 8458 4254

Suggested protocol for targeted carrier testing of high risk populations¹ for patients in ANY ONE of the categories below:



¹ Petrou V, Bowden D, 2005. *Suggested protocol for targeted testing of high risk populations*, Medical Therapy Unit, Monash Medical Centre, Victoria, Australia (adapted).