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# Estima of left ventricular mass in cases of thalassemia

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Talassemia consists of several genetically determined disorders, due to unequal synthesis of hemoglobins, that cause ineffective erythropoiesis, hemolysis and anemia. Cardiac complications are the leading cause of death in patients with thalassemia syndromes, the cardiac complications are due to chronic anemia and iron overload. The aim of this study is to assess the left ventricular mass as a new measure reflecting the cardiac condition in the thalassemic patients. This study included 48 cases of  $\beta$  thalassemia major, subjected to clinical, laboratory, and echo-doppler studies. The thalassemic cases were divided into two groups, one received chelation therapy and other did not. Echo-doppler was used in all cases to assess the structure and function of the heart, and LVM was calculated and corrected to height.