

Objective: Bone changes are relatively common in improperly treated β -thalassemia major. One of the signs of severe thalassemia is significant splenomegaly. The aim of the study is to see the correlation of wrist circumference with splenomegaly as a sign of severity.

Methods: One hundred and five patients with thalassemia major were studied, 52 patients with significant splenomegaly and 53 without splenomegaly. Wrist circumference was measured for both groups. Fifty nine healthy children were taken as a control regarding wrist circumference.

Results: One hundred and five patients with thalassemia were studied. Growth parameters of the group with splenomegaly were found below the standard for their age and sex and wrist circumference was found to correlate significantly with splenomegaly as a sign of severity ($P < 0.05$) and the confidence interval was 95%.

Conclusion: Wrist circumference is a measurable, reliable index to assess severity of thalassemia major.