CONCLUSION

The α -globin gene deletion was determined by using DNA hybridization technique in 36 subjects with homozygous β -thalassemia in which there were 20 subjects with the intermediate forms. The finding of α -globin genotypes were correlated with the hematalogic and clinical presentation combined with the observation of α -thalassemia incidence in both groups of subjects.

It has been demonstrated that the coinheritance of α -thalassemia seemed to provide no modification effect on the severity of homozygous β -thalassemia in the group studied. Therefore in the way of disease prevention, it has been suggested that the coexistence of α -thalassemia, which has been thought to be an ameliorating factor, might be excluded in consideration of prenatal diagnosis.