

## Iron Overload: Assessment and Monitoring Protocol

	<i>Serum ferritin</i>	<i>FerriScan R2 MRI</i>	<i>Myocardial T2* MRI</i>	<i>Liver biopsy and iron quantitation</i>
<b><i>HbSS on regular top-up or exchange transfusion</i></b>	Before starting, and 3 monthly during transfusion programme	From age 8 or 1 year after starting transfusion. Annually thereafter	Every 5 years from starting transfusion.	Only if indicated for histology or if having laparotomy
<b><i>Beta thalassemia major, and transfusion-dependent anaemias</i></b>	3 monthly after starting transfusion	From age 8. Annually thereafter	From age 8. Every 2 years if T2*>20 msec, every year if T2* 10-20 msec, every 6 months if T2*<10 msec	Only if indicated for histology or if having laparotomy
<b><i>Thalassemia intermedia and iron loading anaemias, including HbH, HbE thalassemia, (&lt;4 transfusions per year)</i></b>	6 monthly	Annually from age 10	Every 5 years from age 10	Only if indicated for histology or if having laparotomy

Protocol prepared by Dr Paul Telfer, Senior Lecturer in Haematology at Queen Mary, University of London and Consultant Haematologist at Barts and The London NHS Trusts. Dr Telfer has been designated as Lead Specialist for the East London and Essex Haemoglobinopathy Clinical Network. Reviewed October 2009.