



Standards for the Clinical Care of Children and Adults with Thalassaemia in the UK (2016)

By UK Forum on Haemoglobin Disorders

(Extracts from) Monitoring and Management of Iron Overload

In addition to the stated Requirements the following Recommendations are made:

Monitoring of transfusion iron overload

- The target level of serum ferritin (SF) is between 500 and 1000μg/l. It is recognised that SF may not reflect total body iron levels or organ specific levels in some patients, and SF should not be assessed independently of LIC and myocardial iron.
- LIC of 3-7 mg/g dw is an acceptable therapeutic goal in some thalassaemia major (TM) patients. It is recommended that levels are kept towards the lower end of this range.
- The frequency of LIC assessment should be guided by LIC and rate of change in LIC:
 - Stable levels in the range 3 -7 mg/g dw: one to two yearly
 - Levels >7 mg/g dw: yearly
 - Levels falling rapidly or < 3 mg/g dw: 6 12 monthly
- The frequency of cardiac MR scan should be guided by myocardial iron level
 - Stable T2* >20 milliseconds: two yearly
 - o T2* 10 20 milliseconds: yearly
 - T2* <10 milliseconds: 6 monthly