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## Thalassemia Syndromes as a Benign Cancer of Hematopoietic Stem Cells

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### **Message from the Guest Editors**

The thalassemia syndrome is a genetic disorder, due mainly to more than 250 beta globin gene point mutations, affecting the proliferation of the hematopoietic stem cell leading to ineffective erythropoiesis with lack of differentiation of the erythroid clone and severe anemia. The thalassemia syndrome is not commonly perceived as a proliferative congenital hematopoietic stem cell disorder of the erythroid clone but simply as a congenital anemia. However, technical challenges, accessibility and sustainability of such strategies caused over a 40 year delay before some started becoming available at the patient bedside.

This Special Issue would like to address the background and the implication, in the next future, for considering thalassemia syndromes as a proliferative congenital hematopoietic stem cell disorder of the erythroid clone.

# \*The first 10 papers published in this Special Issue will be free of charge.

Prof. Dr. Aurelio Maggio Prof. Dr. Andrea Piccin *Guest Editors* 



