



## Supplementary files

### Effects of Thalidomide on Erythropoiesis and Iron Homeostasis in Transfusion-Dependent β-Thalassemia

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### Online Supplement

**Table S1.** Erythropoiesis-related parameters before and after thalidomide treatments.

|                            | Before TT            | After TT               | p value |
|----------------------------|----------------------|------------------------|---------|
| RBC ( $\times 10^{12}/L$ ) | $3.53 \pm 0.48$      | $4.71 \pm 0.84$        | 0.000   |
| Hemoglobin (g/dL)          | $8.30 \pm 0.86$      | $10.41 \pm 1.77$       | 0.000   |
| Hematocrit (%)             | $27.13 \pm 2.93$     | $32.76 \pm 4.64$       | 0.000   |
| MCV (fL)                   | $77.30 \pm 5.09$     | $70.12 \pm 5.24$       | 0.000   |
| MCH (pg)                   | $23.70 \pm 2.38$     | $22.24 \pm 2.18$       | 0.011   |
| MCHC (g/dL)                | $30.69 \pm 2.46$     | $31.77 \pm 2.72$       | 0.150   |
| Reticulocyte (%)           | $3.10 \pm 3.81$      | $2.69 \pm 2.33$        | 0.377   |
| IBIL ( $\mu\text{mol/L}$ ) | $40.78 \pm 22.42$    | $39.98 \pm 29.44$      | 0.670   |
| LDH (IU/L)                 | $288.27 \pm 103.44$  | $213.45 \pm 52.99$     | 0.007   |
| Haptoglobin (mg/dL)        | 25.0 (25.0-76.3)     | 25.0 (25.0-88.2)       | 0.401   |
| PFH (mg/L)                 | 187.45 (126.33-800)  | 190.65 (106.60-529.92) | 0.961   |
| EPO (mIU/mL)               | 87.40 (25.60-750.00) | 45.85 (20.40-302.60)   | 0.033   |

TT: thalidomide treatment; RBC: red blood cell; MCV: mean corpuscular volume; MCH: mean corpuscular hemoglobin; MCHC: mean corpuscular hemoglobin concentration; IBIL: indirect bilirubin; LDH: lactate dehydrogenase; PFH: plasma free hemoglobin; EPO: erythropoietin.

**Table S2.** Serum iron parameters before and after thalidomide treatments.

|                            | Before TT               | After TT             | p value |
|----------------------------|-------------------------|----------------------|---------|
| Hepcidin (ng/mL)           | 25.22 (1.75-117.69)     | 27.68 (3.66-117.69)  | 0.654   |
| sTFR (mg/L)                | $15.16 \pm 5.84$        | $14.41 \pm 5.02$     | 0.555   |
| SF(ng/ml)                  | 1716.3 (575.4-12671.86) | 1232.1 (13416.94)    | 0.178   |
| SI ( $\mu\text{mol/L}$ )   | $36.72 \pm 10.16$       | $32.12 \pm 13.35$    | 0.018   |
| TIBC ( $\mu\text{mol/L}$ ) | 46.97 (27.45-144.36)    | 57.86 (32.08-138.99) | 0.236   |
| Tf saturation (%)          | 71.59 (33.39-96.65)     | 56.17 (22.95-98.11)  | 0.039   |
| UIBC ( $\mu\text{mol/L}$ ) | 10.25 (1.80-95.60)      | 24.15 (0.80-91.40)   | 0.085   |
| Tf (g/L)                   | $1.89 \pm 0.29$         | $2.06 \pm 0.37$      | 0.030   |

TT: thalidomide treatment; sTFR: soluble transferrin receptor; SF: serum ferritin; SI: serum iron; TIBC: total iron-binding capacity; Tf: transferrin; UIBC: unsaturated iron-binding capacity.

**Table 3S.** Correlation between changes in erythropoiesis and iron-status parameters and hemoglobin increment.

| Factors                           | Change of the value<br>median (range) | r value | p value |
|-----------------------------------|---------------------------------------|---------|---------|
| RBC ( $\times 10^{12}/\text{L}$ ) | 1.04 (-0.19-2.61)                     | 0.839   | 0.000   |
| Hematocrit (%)                    | 4.47 (-5.29-15.00)                    | 0.813   | 0.000   |
| MCV (fL)                          | -7.2 (-16.3--0.1)                     | -0.288  | 0.194   |
| MCH (pg)                          | -1.98 (-5.17-3.12)                    | 0.247   | 0.267   |
| MCHC (g/dL)                       | 0.46 (-6.55-8.65)                     | 0.371   | 0.089   |
| Reticulocyte (%)                  | 0.02 (-7.33-3.22)                     | 0.018   | 0.935   |
| IBIL ( $\mu\text{mol}/\text{L}$ ) | -3.55 (-42.0-64.4)                    | 0.035   | 0.876   |
| LDH (IU/L)                        | -28 (-287-48)                         | -0.257  | 0.249   |
| Haptoglobin (mg/dL)               | 0.0 (-10.37-12.08)                    | 0.047   | 0.835   |
| PFH (mg/L)                        | -4.08 (-287.26-282.40)                | -0.099  | 0.660   |
| EPO (mIU/mL)                      | -28.15 (-526.0-79.3)                  | -0.097  | 0.669   |
| Hepcidin (ng/mL)                  | 0.65 (-48.94-71.90)                   | 0.439   | 0.041   |
| sTFR (mg/L)                       | -0.59 (-10.92-10.88)                  | -0.261  | 0.240   |
| SF(ng/ml)                         | -275.79 (-1502.03-1086.52)            | 0.036   | 0.874   |
| SI ( $\mu\text{mol}/\text{L}$ )   | -2.91 (-19.35-21.07)                  | -0.536  | 0.010   |
| TIBC ( $\mu\text{mol}/\text{L}$ ) | 4.66 (-69.4-76.87)                    | 0.037   | 0.870   |
| Tf saturation (%)                 | -6.37 (-69.77-53.68)                  | -0.292  | 0.187   |
| UIBC ( $\mu\text{mol}/\text{L}$ ) | 5.30 (-60.91-79.89)                   | 0.145   | 0.519   |
| Tf (g/L)                          | 0.13 (-0.58-1.12)                     | 0.168   | 0.456   |

RBC: red blood cell; MCV: mean corpuscular volume; MCH: mean corpuscular hemoglobin; MCHC: mean corpuscular hemoglobin concentration; IBIL: indirect bilirubin; LDH: lactate dehydrogenase; PFH: plasma free hemoglobin; EPO: erythropoietin; sTFR: soluble transferrin receptor; SF: serum ferritin; SI: serum iron; TIBC: total iron-binding capacity; Tf: transferrin; UIBC: unsaturated iron-binding capacity.