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Beta Thalassemia Minor as a Risk Factor for Suicide and Violence: A Failure to Replicate

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ABSTRACT

The aim of present study was to evaluate the association of thalassemia minor with suicide, impulsivity and ag-gression. The study group consisted of 293 suicidal subjects, 300 violent criminals and 300 control subjects. Thalass-emia trait was slightly more common in criminals (7.3%) than in controls (6.67%), this difference was not statistically significant ($p = 0.75$). Similarly, carrier trait was observed more in suicidal subjects (8.87%) though this difference was not statistically significant ($p = 0.3$). Despite a plausible biological hypothesis, our study results do not support that thalassemia minor could be a risk factor for suicidal, impulsivity and aggressive behaviors.

KEYWORDS

Thalassemia Minor, Aggression, Suicide

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