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# Beta-thalassaemia major – a public health problem in Malaysia: impacts, coping strategies and needs of parents with affected children

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## Background

Approximately 4% of Malaysians are carriers of  $\beta$ -thalassaemia. Malaysia has the highest prevalence of  $\beta$ -thalassaemia in the world. The impact of  $\beta$ -thalassaemia on the health and well-being of affected children and their families is significant.

## Materials and methods

In-depth interviews were conducted with 37 parents of affected children (21 Males; 7 Children; 9 Females).