

Abstract

In this paper, we present data on studies of beta S-haplotypes and alpha-thalassemia gene in subjects from the indigenous population of the Coast Province of Kenya. Of the 7SS patients studied, four were homozygous for beta S-haplotype 20 characteristically associated with the severe form of sickle cell anemia found in the Central African Republic and Western Kenya. Two had haplotype 20 combined with haplotype 19 (Benin Type) and one had haplotype 20 combined with a new haplotype (20x). Alpha thalassaemia-2 gene (-3.7kb deletion) was detected in 45.6% of the 57AA subjects studied. An alpha globin gene triplication was detected in one subject whereas eight had gamma globin gene triplication.