Pregnant couples or couples planning a pregnancy in whom a potential risk of thalassemia/haemoglobinopathy has been identified on screening bloods from both the woman and her partner (red cell indices, iron studies and haemoglobin electrophoresis), must be referred directly to the perinatal thalassemia & haemoglobinopathy multidisciplinary meeting team at the Royal Adelaide Hospital via Health.CALHN.Cancer.Haematology.Referrals@sa.gov.au.

This referral pathway allows for expert assessment of screening results and ordering of confirmatory genetic testing if required. Haemoglobinopathy type can be identified and an accurate risk to the couple can be determined.

If the couple are found to be at high risk of having a pregnancy affected by a severe thalassemia syndrome or haemoglobinopathy, the multidisciplinary team will recommend referral back to the Paediatric and Reproductive Genetics Unit (PRGU) for reproductive counselling.

For more information
Paediatric Reproductive Genetics Unit
Women’s and Children’s Hospital
72 King William Rd, North Adelaide SA 5006
Telephone (08) 8161 7000
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