Correspondence

Accepted: November 30, 1984

Acta haemat. 1985;73:58

Hemoglobin E Variants

S.	Sinasi	Özsoylu
----	--------	---------

Ankara

Sinasi Özsoylu, MD, Professor of Pediatrics and Pediatric Hematologist, Hacettepe University, Faculty of Medicine, Ankara (Turkey)

I have read with interest the manuscript entitled 'Haemoglobin E variants; a clinical, haematological and biosynthetic study of four South African families' of Bird et al. in the August issue of the Journal [1]. I would like to bring to the authors' attention that double heterozygosity for HbS and HbE was first reported from Turkey by Aksoy and Lehman [2], and its frequency was found to be 0.36 in an Eti-Turk village [3]. Although the level of HbE in persons with this trait ranges from 27 to 32%, in general, as stated by the authors, if the level is higher HbE-Saskatoon (HbE 22 G¹⁰⁶-Lys) should be remembered, as in 1 of our cases [4].

References

- 1 Bird, A.R.; Wood, K.; Leisegang, F.; Mathew, C.G.; Ellis, P.; Hartley, P.S.; Karabus, C.D.: Haemoglobin E variants: a clinical haematological and biosynthetic study of 4 South African families. Acta haemat. 72: 135–137(1984).
- Aksoy, M.; Lehman, H.: The first observation of sickle cell HbE disease. Nature 179: 1248 (1957).
- Özsoylu, S.; Sahinoğlu, M.: Haemoglobinopathy survey in an Eti-Turk village. Hum. Hered. 25: 50–59 (1975).
- Prozorova-Zamani, V.; Özsoylu, S.; Aksoy, M.; Hedlee, M.G.; Lam, H.; Wilson, J.B.; Altay, C.; Huisman, T.H.J.: HbE and HbE-like variants in individuals from Turkey. Hemoglobin 5: 743–748(1981).