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Information about the contributions of each person named as having participated in the study

1) Guarantor(s), i.e., person(s) who is (are) responsible for the integrity of the work as a whole:

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2) Authors who participated in the conception of the study: Yesim Aydinok, Patricia Evans, Chantal Y. Manz, and John B. Porter

3) Design & Methods. The following authors were responsible for specific investigations (non-transferrin bound iron, DFP-iron complex, urinary iron excretion, iron balance, transfusional iron loading rate):

- Yesim Aydinok was responsible for recruitment of the patients to the study, administration of chelation regimens, acquisition and interpretation of data
- Patricia Evans was responsible for analysis of non-transferrin bound iron and DFP-iron complexes and devised the latter assay
- John B. Porter was responsible for concept of relating delta NTBI to transfusion rate, LIC and drug iron complex

(Assessment of liver iron from biopsy tissue and urinary iron excretion have already been performed during core study “DF-1”)

4) Results. The following authors were responsible for specific portions of the results, including figures and tables (please indicate the person responsible for each figure and each table):

- Yesim Aydinok was responsible for Table 1 & 2 and drafting Figures 1 A, B, C, Figures 2A, B, C
- Patricia Evans was responsible for Figure 3 & Figure S1

- John B. Porter was responsible for relating NTBI to transfusion rate, LIC and drug iron complex and preparing Figures 1A, B, C, Figure 2A, B, C and Figure 4A, B.

5) **Writing the manuscript.** The following authors were responsible for writing the manuscript:

- Yesim Aydinok was responsible for drafting manuscript
- Patricia Evans was responsible for critically reviewed the manuscript and wrote specifically the experimental parts of it.
- Chantal Y. Manz was responsible for revising it critically for important intellectual content
- John B. Porter was responsible for revising manuscript critically, for important intellectual content and finalizing manuscript and co-writing introduction, results and discussion.

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