ß-thalassemia and alkaptonuria

Sir,

The report on "β-thalassemia and alkaptonuria" is very interesting.[1] Lodh and Kerketta reported a case of the combination of β-thalassemia and alkaptonuria and mentioned that this was the first case report. In fact, the two condition might be co-exist but has not been clearly mentioned. In the area with high endemic rate of thalassemia, the occurrence of alkaptouria has ever been reported.[2] The diagnosis of the problem can be easily forgotten and overlooked in case that the technique for diagnosis is not available.[3] Based on the report of Lodh and Kerketta the remained question is whether the implementation of universal genetic screening that includes thalassemia and alkaptonuria screening should be considered of not.

Sora Yasri, Viroj Wiwanitkit[1]

Primary Care Unit, KMT Center, Bangkok, Thailand,
[1]Hainan Medical University, China

Address for correspondence: Dr. Sora Yasri,
Primary Care Unit, KMT Center, Bangkok, Thailand.
E-mail: sorayasri@outlook.co.th

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Access this article online	
Quick Response Code:	Website: www.ijhg.com
	DOI: 10.4103/0971-6866.132772