

New Approach for Analysis and Prediction of Genetic Beta-Thalassemia Mutations Based On Bioinformatics Bioedit Tools.

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Abstract: Beta-thalassemia is one of the most common single gene disorders affecting almost all the countries. It is a blood disorder that reduces the production of hemoglobin and commonly caused by inherited gene mutations of HBB gene copies from father and mother. Predicting the gene healthy plays essential role in saving human life. A new approach for the detection of beta-thalassemia mutations via checking and testing the gene healthy and find if the gene hold mutation will be apply based on bioinformatics tools via bioedit package. This method allows genotyping of the HBB gene of patient's DNA. The system provides a bases for speed (2 seconds only), rapid, simple, and reliable detection of the numerous known beta-thalassemia gene mutations.

Index Terms— Beta-thalassemias; HBB gene equence; Sequence Alignment; FASTA; ClustalW; Bioinformatics Tools; gene mutations.

1 INTRODUCTION

Thalassemia is one of the major hemoglobinopathies among the population all around the world [1]. It is considered as the most widespread genetic mutation. According to the World Health Organization (WHO) between 1.5-7% of the world population are carriers for this disease, and every year 60,000-400,000 birth of new patients are reported. In Israel, the incidence of carriers for B-thalassemia is around 20% among the Jewish from Kurdish origin and around 5-10% among the Arab population. And every year 60,000-400,000 birth of new patients are reported [2]. It is inherited blood disorders which passed from parents to children through genes and has life-long implications for patients and families. Thalassemia cause the body to make fewer healthy red blood cells and less hemoglobin than normal [3].

Beta thalassemia is a blood disorder that reduces the production of hemoglobin. Hemoglobin is the iron-containing protein in red blood cells that carries oxygen to cells throughout the body. In people with beta thalassemia, low levels of hemoglobin lead to a lack of oxygen in many parts of the body. Affected individuals also have a shortage of red blood cells (anemia), which can cause pale skin, weakness, fatigue, and more serious complications. People with beta thalassemia are at an increased risk of developing abnormal blood clots [4].

Because thalassemia is inherited from parents to child in genes, sometimes changes occur to genes, resulting in medical conditions. Such as changes occur to beta globin genes in beta thalassemia: A person normally inherits two globin genes for the production of the beta globin protein in hemoglobin. A person may have an alteration (mutation) in one of their two globin genes. This person is called a carrier of Thalassemia and is healthy. Carriers may be at risk of having a child affected with beta B thalassemia major if their partner is also a carrier of B thalassemia. When a person has alterations (mutations) in both of their B globin genes, they have a severe condition called B thalassemia major. Thalassemia major results in severe anemia requiring lifelong treatment [5].

B-thalassemia major can be caused by homozygosity or compound heterozygosity for B-globin gene mutations (HBB gene)[4]. The HBB gene provides instructions for making a protein called beta-globin. Beta-globin is a component (subunit) of a larger protein called hemoglobin, which is located inside red blood cells. Without proper amounts of beta-globin, sufficient hemoglobin cannot be formed. A lack of hemoglobin disrupts the normal development of red blood cells. A shortage of mature red blood cells prevents these cells from carrying and delivering enough oxygen to satisfy the body's energy needs. A lack of oxygen in the body's tissues can lead to poor growth, organ damage, and other health problems associated with beta thalassemia [4].

The HBB gene encodes an important blood protein called beta globin. A person with beta-thalassemia carries a mutation in both copies of the HBB gene, completely halting production of the beta globin protein. Without beta globin, the important oxygen-carrying protein, hemoglobin, can not be made. Although oxygen can be carried by a less efficient form of hemoglobin, most of the affected red blood cells die [6].

Most cases are inherited from parents who both have diseased alleles of the HBB gene which is located on from base pair 5,246,695 to base pair 5,248,300 on chromosome 11.

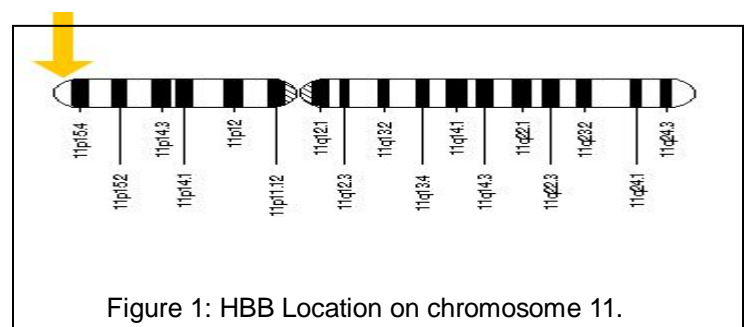


Figure 1: HBB Location on chromosome 11.

The beta-thalassemias were among the first human genetic diseases to be examined by means of new techniques of recombinant DNA analysis. In general, the molecular pathology of disorders resulting from mutations in the nonalpha-globin gene region is the best known [7].

2. RELATED WORK

Fettah A., et.al [8], Analyzed and tested for 106 turkey patients gene sequences for B-globin gene mutations using DNA analysis. And classified as holding B-thalassemia major or B-thalassemia intermedia based on their age at diagnosis. The result showed various types of mutations types in gene regions and passed them to turkey hospital for future gene tests.

Atanasovska B, et.al [9], Proposed approach applicable in a range of Mediterranean countries, they offered a combination of high accuracy and rapidity exploiting standard techniques and widely available equipment. Beta globin Detection further adapted to particular populations by including/excluding assayed mutations. And facilitate future modifications by providing detailed information on assay design

Verma IC, et.al [10], characterized the mutations in 1050 carriers of the beta-thalassemia gene and analyzed their regional distribution in India. The majority of beta-thalassemia carriers were migrants from Pakistan and their pattern of mutations differed from the rest. The paper result helped to successfully establish a program of genetic counselling and prenatal diagnosis of beta-thalassemia in order to reduce the burden of this disease in India.

P. Lahiry, et.al [11], suggested that "efforts to more completely characterize the HBB mutation distribution in high-risk areas, such as the Indian Subcontinent and the Middle East" may lead to improved diagnosis with earlier and more effective intervention strategies. The concluded that beta-thalassemia is highly prevalent and is a major public health problem in the malaria endemic areas of the Indian

The weakness of all these methods and techniques they focused in diagnostic or detecting Thalassemia were based on genes mutations locally. Means that comparison of patients' gene was made to conclude specific annotations and mutations in the selected country. Without taking in consideration the abnormality of gene state wheather normal or abnormal.

The motivation behind this new approach of beta tha-

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lassemia mutations detection is to check the HBB state as it is the gene that mutations on it will causes Beta thalassemia. With taking some features and helpful information about the gene.

3 THE PROPOSED APPROACH.

The main task and aims of this proposed new approach is to diagnostic and detecting mutations in the Beta-globin gene(HBB gene) sequence by comparisons between selected parents gene equences wit the normal gene (the gene without annotation). In order to check the normality of gene state. The new approach contains many importatnt steps to reach the goal of detection as follows

1. Start
2. Select the gene causes to the genetic disease
3. Find the reference gene sequence (gene without mutations)
4. Get the patient's gene sequence for detection.
5. Make fasta file of the two sequences.
6. Use ClustalW alignment tool to find similarity.
7. if changes occure, then
8. Follow and monitor transicription and translation processes.
9. If the protein sequences result with changes between the sequences. The,
10. The gene sequence is infected and the patient has Beta thalassemia
11. End

A. BIOINFORMATIC DATABASES.

because the environment plays important role in the DNA sequences shapes, it is important to find the reference gene sequence that doent hold any annotations or mutation so as to adobt it for alignment and classification. Bioinformatic databases provide useful references to find and deal with gene sequences by providing GenBank sequences with Reference genome that help any one to make sure of the gene healthy.

B. BIOINFORMATICS TOOLS AND PROCESSES.

1. FASTA: For every bioinformatics tools selected to complete tasks. FASTA format is required to be set as a standard expression of the entire file to the elected bioinformatics tool. FASTA file could also help in find a sequence of the required gene agenist keywords.
2. ClustalW: it is a powerful technique for checkup the sequences similarity whether the patient has malignant mutation related to ubnormal disorder or no. by using it within BioEdit package; it can also provide the way to monitor the processes of transcription and translation to get protein sequences that controll the function in gene. In this new approach, ClustalW accept FATA file that contains the normal gene (HBB gene sequence) and the patient/ parents HBB gene in order to check the gene's healthy as follows.

3. BLAST, the basic local alignment search tool is the comon widely used bioinformatics tools to searching for similarities between biological sequences which performs comparisons between pairs of sequences, searching for regions of local similarity to start sequence analysis.

1. Start
2. Make Fasta File (Normal& Person's) HBB Gene
3. Use The File as Input to BioEdit ClustalW
4. Check Neoclotide alignment Of The Entire Sequenc-es.
5. Seq1 !=Seq2?
6. Convert Sequences To protiens.
7. Use Alignment Tool(Pairwise Alignment) for Similar-ity Check.
8. Differences Found? (Seq1 !=Seq2)? Then
9. HBB Gene is at Risk and it is Candidate for Thalas-semia Disease.
10. End

By reaching protien checks, we can make sure of the basic role which is **(A person with beta-thalassemia carries a mutation in both copies of the HBB gene, completely halting production of the beta globin protein).**

4. Experimtal Results

The quality of medical care has always been a key issue for both practitioners and patients and the highest standards and practice guidelines are expected in all fields of medicine. The diagnosis of thalassaemia is often important because of atypical clinical histories

The Results fron implementing the new approach based on HBB gene which is the only gene causes B-Thalassemia can be implemented in many step as:

1. Obtaining the normal HBB gene sequence from official bioinformatics databases according to the suitable environment . in this system, the normal gene adobted from NCBI reference genome databases as follows:

NCBI -> Gene-> Reference genome-> HBB gene sequence

Location: 11p15.5
Chromosome 11 - NC_000011.9 (5246696..5248301, complement)

Gene position on chromosome 11

Chromosome 11 - NC_000011.9

513881 | 5246696 | 5248301

HBB - HBB - HBBP1

Display Settings: FASTA

Showing 2.09kb region from base 5246454 to 5248541.

Homo sapiens chromosome 11, GRCh37.p13 Primary Assembly

NCBI Reference Sequence: NC_000011.9

GenBank Graphics

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>gl|224589802:c5248541-5246454 Homo sapiens chromosome 11, GRCh37.p13 Primary Assembly
TTTTATAGCAATTTGACTGATGGTATGGGCGCAAGAGATATATCTAGAGGGAGGGCTGAGGTTG
AAGTCCCACTCTAAGCCAGTCCCAAGAGCCAGGACAGGTACGGCTGTCACTACTAGACCTCACC
TGTGAGCCACACCCTAGGGTTGGCCAACTCTACTCCAGAGAGCAGGGAGGGCAGAGCCAGGCTGGCA
TAAAGTCAGAGAGACCACTATGCTTACATTTGCTTCTGACACACTGTTGTTCTACTAGCAACCTCA
AACAGACCACTGGTGCATGTGACTCTGGAGAGAGAGTCCGCTTACTGCCCTTGGGCGCAAGGTGAA
GTGGATGAAGTTGGTGGTGGAGCCCTGGGACAGTTGGTATCAAGTTACAGACAGGTTAAGGAGACCA
ATAGAAGCTGGGATGTGGAGACAGAGAACTCTGGGTTCTGATAGGCATGACTCTCTGCTTAT
TGGTCTATTTCCACCCTTAGGCTGCTGGTGGCTACCTCTGGACCAGAGGTTCTTTGAGTCCCTTTG
GGATCTCCCACTCCTGATGCTGTTATGGGCAACCTTAAGGTGAAGGCTCATTGGCAAGAAAGTCTCTGG
GCTTATGATGGCTGGCTCAGCTGCACTGCACTCAAGAGGCACTTTGCACTACTGAGTGAAGTGCAGT
GTGACAGCTGCACCTGGATCCCTGACAACCTCAGGGTGAAGCTATGGGACCTTGATGTTCTTTTCC
TTCTTTCTATGGTTAAGTTCATGTGATAGGAGGGGATAAGTACAGGGTACAGTTAGAAATGGGAAAC
AGACCAATGATGGCATCAAGTGTGGAGTCCAGGATCGTTTTAATGTTCTTTATTTGCTGTTCATAACAA
TTGTTTTCTTTTGTAAATCTTCTGCTTTCTTTCTTCTCCGCAATTTTACTATATATCTTAATG
CCTTAACTTGTATACAAAAGGAATATCTCTGAGTACTAATAGTAACTTAAAAAARAACCTTTACA
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2. in order to analyze and test the HBB gene sequence of the patient to extract the similar sequences reported in the world to make sure of the gene healthy. We can use blast suite tool of bioinformatics tool to handle the analysis process. The HBB gene.

NCBI/BLAST/blastn suite

Standard Nucleo

blastn blastp blastx tblastn tblastx

Enter Query Sequence

Enter accession number(s), gi(s), or FASTA sequence(s)

ATGGTGCATCTGACTCCTGAGGAGAAGTCTGGCGTTACTGCCCCTGTGGGCAAGGTGAAC
STGGATGAAGTTGGTGGTGGGCGCTGGGAGGCTGCTGGTGTCTACCTTGGACCCAG
AGGTTCTTGGATCCTTGGGATCTGCCCCTCTGATGCTGTTATGGCAACCTAAG
STGAAGGCTCATGGCAAGAAAGTCTGGTGGCTTTAGTATGGCCCTGCTCACTGGAC
AACCTCAAGGACCTTTGCCACACTGAGTGAAGTGCACCTGTGACAAAGTGCACCTGGAT

Or, upload file Choose File No file chosen

Job Title: BLAST Tool

Align two or more sequences

Choose Search Set

Database: Human genomic + transcript Mouse genomic + transcript Others (nr etc.):

Reference genomic sequences (refseq_genomic)

Organism: Homo sapiens

BLAST

General Parameters

Max target sequences: 100

Short queries: Automatically adjust parameters for short input sequences

Expect threshold: 10

Word size: 256

Max matches in a query range: 0

Scoring Parameters

Match/Mismatch Scores: 1, -2

Gap Costs: Linear

Figure 3: Blast Tool Algorithm for Similarity Search.

The blast results will appear after a while with all the related sequences at NCBI databases.

3. The important step beigns in this stage after analysis and search. In this stage the normal HBB gene sequence and patient gene sequence is used as FASTA file input to the bioedit package tool to test the patient's gene if its healthy or hold somatic mutations that causes thalassaemia.

Sequences producing significant alignments

Select: All None Selected 0

List of similar sequences

Description	Max score	Total score	Query cover	E value	Inert	Accession
Homo sapiens cDNA FL392889. Homo sapiens hemoglobin, beta (HBB), mRNA	821	821	100%	0.0	100%	U031192.1
Homo sapiens hemoglobin, beta (HBB), mRNA	821	821	100%	0.0	100%	U031192.4
Homo sapiens full open reading frame cDNA clone RZP2043450220 for gene HBB, hemoglobin, beta, complete cds, without stopcodon	815	815	100%	0.0	99%	C033463.1
Homo sapiens hemoglobin beta subunit variant (HBB1) mRNA, complete cds	815	815	100%	0.0	99%	J018188.1
Homo sapiens hemoglobin, beta mRNA (cDNA clone MGC-14540) IMAGE 4292121, complete cds	809	809	100%	0.0	99%	U031192.1
Homo sapiens full open reading frame cDNA clone RZP2043450330 for gene HBB, hemoglobin, beta, complete cds, without stopcodon	809	809	99%	0.0	99%	C035449.1
Homo sapiens hemoglobin beta chain (HBB) mRNA, complete cds	803	803	100%	0.0	99%	J011771.1
Synthetic construct cDNA IMAGE 10001933 FLH14449.01L RZP2043450303C hemoglobin, beta (HBB) gene, exons, complete protein	808	808	99%	0.0	99%	U0308219.2
Synthetic construct Homo sapiens cDNA IMAGE 10001933 FLH14449.01L RZP2043450303C hemoglobin, beta (HBB) gene, exons, complete protein	806	806	99%	0.0	99%	F011747.1
Synthetic construct Homo sapiens cDNA IMAGE 10001933 FLH14449.01L RZP2043450303C hemoglobin, beta (HBB) gene, exons, complete protein	806	806	99%	0.0	99%	C038463.2

Figure 4: Blast Results Show all Similar Sequences at NCBI.

- The important step begins in this stage after analysis and search. In this stage the normal HBB gene sequence and patient gene sequence is used as FASTA file input to the bioedit package tool to test the patient's gene if its healthy or hold somatic mutations that causes thalassemia.

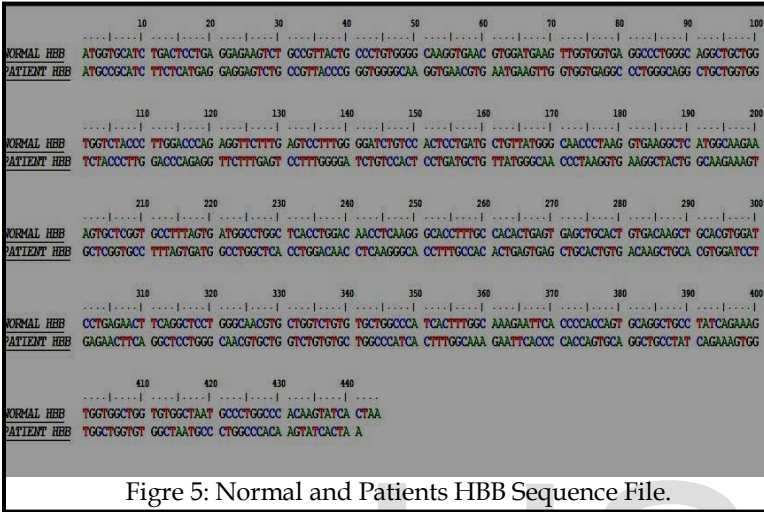


Figure 5: Normal and Patients HBB Sequence File.

First the clustalW tool is used for alignment of the two HBB sequences at Neocleotide level.

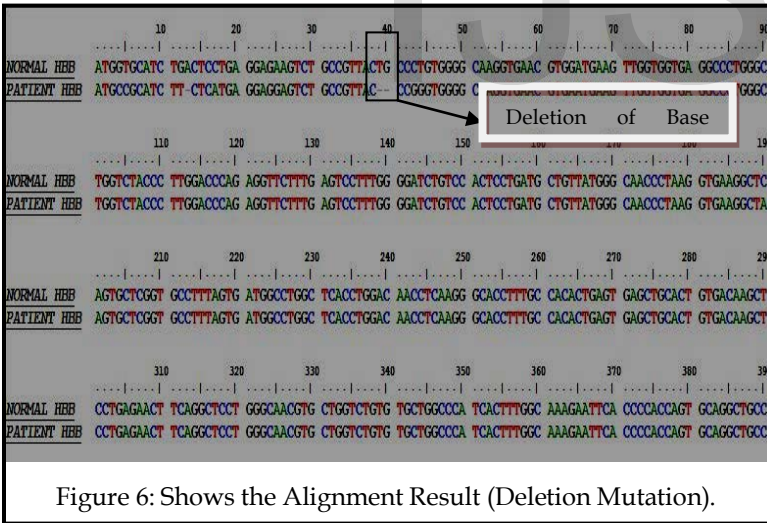


Figure 6: Shows the Alignment Result (Deletion Mutation).

In this stage and because the result shows mutation in some positions on patient's gene. This means that there is a chance of having Beta thalassemia. In order to make sure of this result the two sequences should convert to protein via DNA-RNA-Protein to find if the gene changes its function. If the protein sequence keeps the sequences similar 100% this mean that the gene is healthy, otherwise the gene would be at highly risk of Beta thalassemia disease.

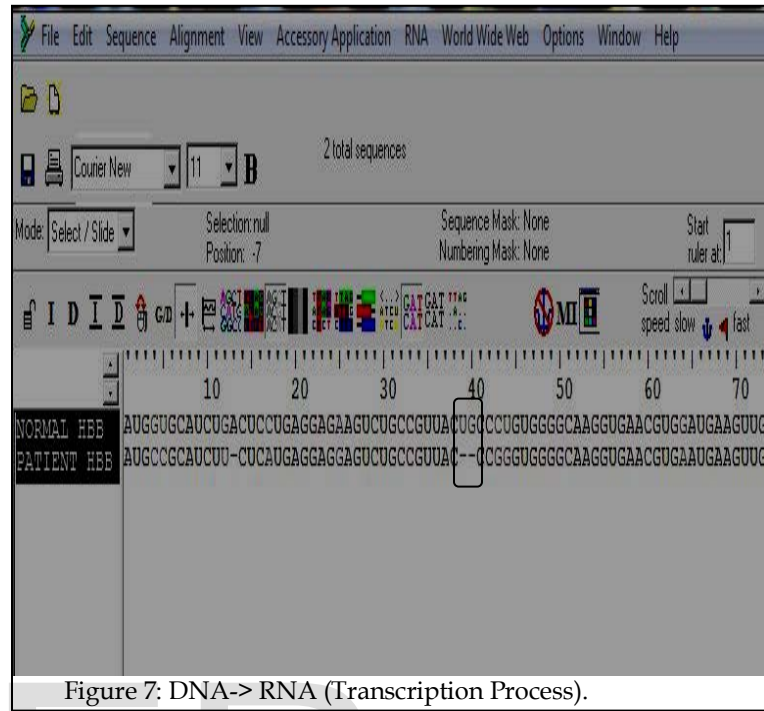


Figure 7: DNA-> RNA (Transcription Process).

The final stage is the protein sequence conversion (translation process). if differences occur a gain then the gene is ub normal and the disease is actually happened.

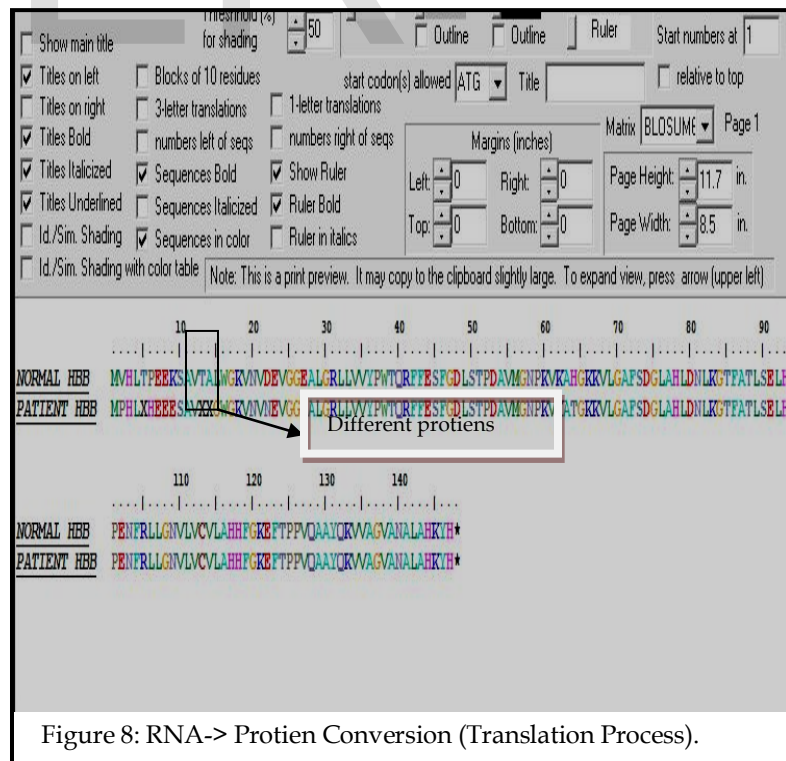


Figure 8: RNA-> Protein Conversion (Translation Process).

The result shows that the unlike protein sequences alignment describe the ubnormality of the HBB gene and the gene finally hold

Beta thalassemia disease.

Discussion of the Results

Comparing the results of current new approach with previous works can be list as:

Features	The New Approach	Fattah A. et.al	Verma IC, et.al
The Aims	Analysis, alignment and mutations check and gene healthy test.	tested for 106 turkey patients gene sequences for B-globin gene mutations	characterized mutations in 1050 carriers of B-thalassemia gene and analyzed their distribution in India
The approach	Used DNA (both Nucleotide & protein)	Used DNA (Nucleotide only)	Used DNA (Nucleotide only)
General method	Yes	No-limited	No-limited
The results can support	Bioinformatics, molecular biology, doctors	Molecular & doctors	Doctors

Table 1: Comparison with Previous Works.

CONCLUSION

The main conclusions which obtained from implementing the proposed novel method of disease prediction are:

1. This proposed approach is first prediction method gives accurate results, because it is not based on malignant mutations of genes which caused the disease only, but also base on their proteins.
2. This new approach suggested a general prediction method based on mutational in genes caused the disease, i.e. can implement this novel method for any disease when the mutations of its gene which caused the disease are known.
3. Offers an automatic, cost effective and friendly diagnosis system for detecting malignant mutation Beta thalassemia as shown in Table 1. it can use by any researcher or patient who needed to test malignant mutations at genes which caused breast any type of thalassemia.

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