Reviewer's report

**Title:** Hb Knossos (HBB: c.82G>T), β-globin CD 5 (-CT) (HBB: c.17_18delCT) and δ-globin CD 59 (-A) (HBD: c.179delA) mutations in a Syrian patient with β-thalassemia intermedia

**Version:** 2  **Date:** 04 Jan 2019

**Reviewer:** John Waye

**Reviewer's report:**

Parts of the paper are very repetitive. For example, the hematology results for the proband and parents are presented twice in the text (page 3 lines 58-60/page 4 lines 4-10 and page 5, lines 4-6), and also in Table 1. The table alone would suffice.

The last sentence of the paper (page 6, lines 32-38) is at odds with the data in the paper. They recommend screening for HBD gene mutations in beta-thalassemia carriers when the level of Hb A2 is reduced and the level of Hb F is elevated. The relevant individual in this family (proband's mother) is a beta-thalassemia carrier with reduced Hb A2 but no detectable Hb F.

**Are the methods appropriate and well described?**
If not, please specify what is required in your comments to the authors.

Yes

**Does the work include the necessary controls?**
If not, please specify which controls are required in your comments to the authors.

Yes

**Are the conclusions drawn adequately supported by the data shown?**
If not, please explain in your comments to the authors.

Yes

**Are you able to assess any statistics in the manuscript or would you recommend an additional statistical review?**
If an additional statistical review is recommended, please specify what aspects require further assessment in your comments to the editors.

Not relevant to this manuscript

**Quality of written English**
Please indicate the quality of language in the manuscript:

Needs some language corrections before being published
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