

# Micromethodology for the characterization of hemoglobin variants

Citation for published version (APA):

Plaseska, D. (1994). *Micromethodology for the characterization of hemoglobin variants*. [Doctoral Thesis, Maastricht University]. Rijksuniversiteit Limburg. <https://doi.org/10.26481/dis.19940428dp>

## Document status and date:

Published: 01/01/1994

## DOI:

[10.26481/dis.19940428dp](https://doi.org/10.26481/dis.19940428dp)

## Document Version:

Publisher's PDF, also known as Version of record

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**MICROMETHODOLOGY FOR THE CHARACTERIZATION  
OF THE HEMOGLOBIN VARIANTS**

van

**DIJANA PLASESKA**

1. The extensive progress made in the studies of Hb variants was primarily possible by technological advances, namely the development of more sensitive methods for their detection and identification.
2. The combination of reversed phase HPLC for chain separation, IEF, and cation exchange HPLC for Hb separation, allows the detection of most Hb variants.
3. HPLC is a sensitive and powerful technique, and is currently the method of choice for structural analysis of abnormal Hbs in laboratories where DNA analysis has not been introduced.
4. The identification of Hbs with complex structures and with distinct physicochemical properties will increasingly depend on the application of DNA methodology, i.e. direct sequence analysis of amplified DNA.
5. Early diagnosis is of critical importance for the treatment of hemolytic anemia, secondary to the presence of an unstable Hb.
6. Testing for cystic fibrosis (CF) should be made available to individuals with a family history of this disease; screening of individuals or couples in the general population should not be promoted until the carrier detection rate improves.
7. The discovery of the Huntington's gene and the extra copies of a 3 nt repeat as a cause of the entity, enables accurate and early diagnosis.
8. Particular HLA-DQ molecules play a dominant role in determining susceptibility or resistance to Type 1 (insulin-dependent) diabetes mellitus.
9. The development of new powerful chemotherapeutic agents together with the introduction of bone marrow transplantation has given patients with high-risk lymphomas a chance for a long term, disease-free survival.
10. Despite much progress in the technique of coronary angioplasty, its success continues to be limited by the problems of abrupt arterial closure and late restenosis.
11. Further clinical trials are necessary to evaluate long-term efficacy and tolerance of butyrate analogs in patients with  $\beta$ -thal and sickle cell anemia.
12. The United Nations should establish a permanent court for war crimes, violation of human rights, and acts against peace.