

16 October 2017

Dear β -thalassemia community members,

We would like to let you know about the development of our investigational molecule bitopertin in β -thalassemia. At Roche we are committed to developing innovative medicines for patients with conditions where there is a high unmet medical need, such as for β -thalassemia.

We recently started a clinical study in people with β -thalassemia. This study, called **β itoThal** or BP39642, is evaluating the use of bitopertin in people with non-transfusion dependent (NTD) β -thalassemia. The **β itoThal** (BP39642) study aims to explore the safety, tolerability and efficacy of bitopertin, a molecule given by mouth. It is an open-label study of 22 weeks duration in up to 24 subjects where all participants will be given bitopertin. Countries involved in the study are Italy, Lebanon and Thailand.

Information collected from this study will help us to understand whether bitopertin could have a role in β -thalassemia. We will provide you with an update about this in the second half of 2018.

Please visit <https://clinicaltrials.gov/ct2/show/NCT03271541> for detailed information on **β itoThal** (BP39642).

Our team is looking forward to working together with the community to help make a meaningful difference to those affected by β -thalassemia.

If you have any questions, or would like to discuss further, please contact us at sangeeta.jethwa@roche.com and dominik.kraus@roche.com.

Sincerely,



Sangeeta Jethwa, MD
Head, Patient Partnership, Rare Diseases
Roche Pharma Research & Early Development
Roche Innovation Centre Basel, Switzerland



Dominik Kraus, PhD
Patient Partnership Manager, Rare Diseases
Roche Pharma Research & Early Development
Roche Innovation Centre Basel, Switzerland