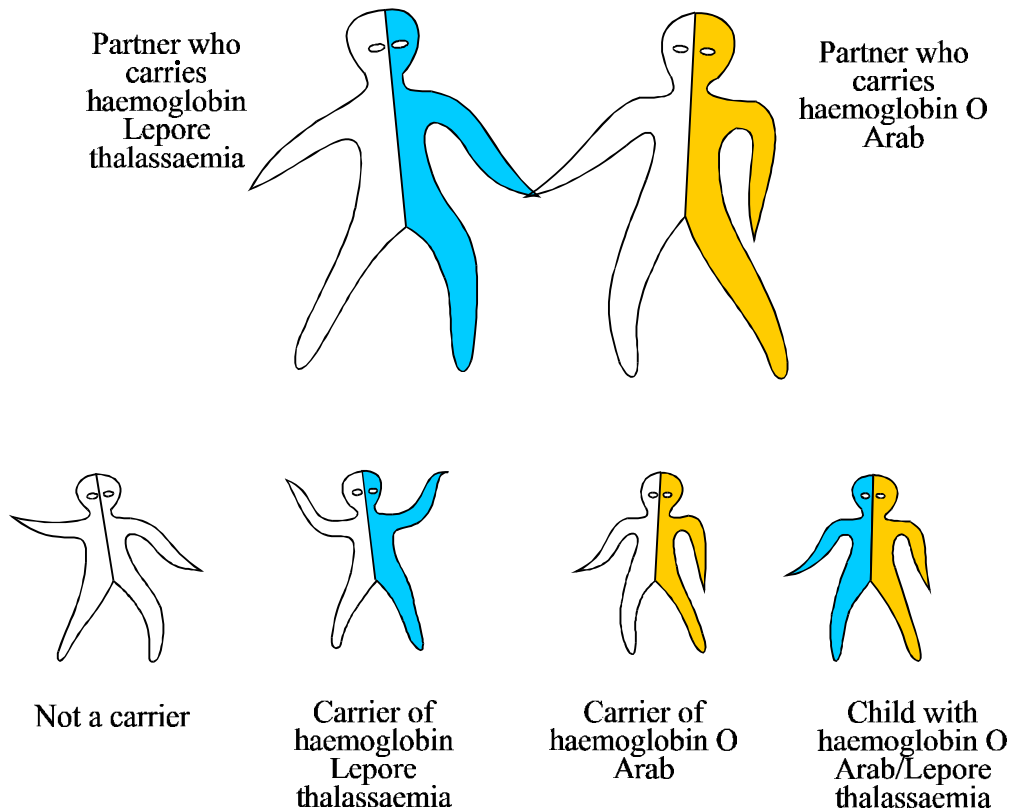


## Implications for a Child when One Partner carries Haemoglobin Lepore thalassaemia and the Other carries Haemoglobin O Arab

This is an unusual combination that has not been reported in the literature. The following information is based on general experience with these types of thalassaemia, and available scientific knowledge.

This couple could have a child with **haemoglobin O Arab/Lepore thalassaemia**.



**In each pregnancy**, there are four possibilities.

- The child may not carry any haemoglobin disorder.
- The child may carry haemoglobin Lepore thalassaemia. This is harmless.
- The child may carry haemoglobin O Arab. This is harmless.
- The child may inherit haemoglobin O Arab from one parent, and haemoglobin Lepore thalassaemia from the other. This child would have an inherited anaemia called **haemoglobin O Arab/Lepore thalassaemia**.

In each pregnancy there is a 3 out of 4 chance of a healthy child, and a 1 out of 4 chance of child with haemoglobin O Arab/Lepore thalassaemia.

**Haemoglobin O Arab/Lepore thalassaemia** is a form of haemoglobin O Arab/beta thalassaemia. This is a type of inherited anaemia. Many people with haemoglobin O Arab/beta thalassaemia are healthy all their life, but some are anaemic and need extra care. Current scientific knowledge suggests that a child with **haemoglobin O Arab/ Lepore thalassaemia** will have a mild form of haemoglobin O Arab/beta thalassaemia. However, we cannot reliably predict whether any given couple could have children with mild or more severe haemoglobin O Arab/Lepore thalassaemia.

It is possible to test a baby for Haemoglobin O Arab/Lepore thalassaemia early in pregnancy. This couple should see an expert counsellor in haemoglobin disorders to discuss their options. They should do this before starting a pregnancy, or as early in pregnancy as possible.

**Counselling for haemoglobin disorders is provided in your area by:**