

Biosketch:

Dr Sant-Rayn Pasricha (Post-doctoral fellow, Weatherall Institute of Molecular Medicine, University of Oxford, and Senior Lecturer, Department of Medicine, Royal Melbourne Hospital, University of Melbourne) is a clinical and laboratory haematologist, epidemiologist, and molecular biologist. He is a physician with fellowships in clinical and laboratory haematology, and holds an MPH and PhD in anaemia epidemiology incorporating fieldwork in rural India and anaemia policy development at WHO HQ in Geneva. He is presently a consultant to WHO on anaemia control policy and refinement of iron indices for clinical

and public health use; is chair of the International Union of Nutrition Sciences Taskforce on risks and benefits of iron supplementation, is medical consultant to the Australian Red Cross Blood Service Donor Iron Deficiency Taskforce, and has served as a consultant on anaemia epidemiology to GAIN. He led the key systematic reviews of effects of iron supplementation in children, which have defined the evidence for these guidelines. He is presently co-investigator of a large Phase I/II study of novel administration of ferrous carboxymaltose to treat IDA, and is collaborating on two randomized controlled trials of pre-iron supplementation hepcidin screening (MRC Gambia and University of Oxford). He has undertaken several studies to define the role of hepcidin as an index of iron deficiency in women and in children. He is working to establish a programme to define the risks and benefits of iron supplementation in young children. He also works on molecular biology of iron homeostasis, with a current focus on epigenetic regulation of the hepcidin promoter, with a view to developing new treatments for iron related disorders.