

Incidence of NESTROFT-positive among the Kolams of District Adilabad, Andhra PradeshK.N. Saraswathy¹, A.M. Elizabeth², M.P. Sachdeva³, T.S. Rao⁴ and A.K. Kalla³¹*Department of Molecular Genetics, Albert Einstein College of Medicine of Yeshiva University, Jack and Pearl Resnik Campus, 1300 Morris Park Avenue, Bronx, New York 10461, USA*²*Department of Population Genetics and Human Development, National Institute of Health and Family Welfare, New Delhi 110 067, India*³*Department of Anthropology, University of Delhi, Delhi 110 007, India*⁴*Department of Biotechnology, Government of India, CGO Complex, New Delhi 110 003, India***KEYWORDS** Primitive Tribe. NESTROFT. HB S. Thalassaemia

ABSTRACT Kolam is a primitive tribal population inhabiting Adilabad district of Andhra Pradesh and practicing a high degree of consanguinity. Sickle cell anemia is not the only haemoglobinopathy found among the Indian tribes. Other Hb variants like HbE, HbC, HbD and the structural defects in the synthesis of haemoglobin in the form of alpha- and beta -thalassaemias may also be present. For the extensive screening of the population for abnormal haemoglobins, the most inexpensive and commonly used technique is the "naked eye single tube red cell osmotic fragility test" (NESTROFT). In the present study the incidence of Nestroft-positive in the Kolam tribe of Andhra Pradesh have been reported.