| **Characteristic** | **N = 782**1 |
| --- | --- |
| What is your advice for a thalassemia carrier |  |
| Can marry but avoid having children | 233 (30%) |
| Can marry with a non carrier | 458 (59%) |
| Do not embark on a marriage | 91 (12%) |
| What is your advice for a person who is not a thalassemia carrier |  |
| Can marry a carrier but don't have a child | 143 (18%) |
| Can marry anyone | 358 (46%) |
| Do not marry a carrier | 281 (36%) |
| What is your opinion when both partners of a couple are thalassemia carriers |  |
| Advice antenatal diagnosis and abortions | 117 (15%) |
| Counsel and advice to avoid that marriage | 186 (24%) |
| Marriage between carriers should be sanctioned by law | 61 (7.8%) |
| We should let them decide what to do | 418 (53%) |
| Inquiring about the carrier state of the couple by a registrar of marriage at the registration |  |
| If the male is a carrier inquire the female | 51 (6.5%) |
| Inquiry should be done confidentially and individually | 310 (40%) |
| Inquiry should be done openly | 300 (38%) |
| Should not be done | 121 (15%) |
| What should be done by the registrar regarding an at risk marriage |  |
| Do not register | 133 (17%) |
| Refer to a medical officer and reconsider | 584 (75%) |
| Register them without intervening | 65 (8.3%) |
| Your opinion on directive counseling an at risk couple to avoid that marriage |  |
| It is a commitment for the benefit of future generation | 448 (57%) |
| It is a commitment of a thalassemia carrier towards the society | 112 (14%) |
| It is a violation of basic human rights | 52 (6.6%) |
| It is inhuman | 31 (4.0%) |
| It is not justifiable | 139 (18%) |
| What is your opinion regarding abortion of a foetus with thalassemia |  |
| It is a justice for the foetus | 91 (12%) |
| It is beneficial to the country | 70 (9.0%) |
| It is inhuman | 356 (46%) |
| It is justice for the mother and the family | 109 (14%) |
| Restrictions for abortions in such occasions should be lifted | 156 (20%) |
| 1n (%) | |