



**שם:** ספורי-אליאס אינאס

The epidemiology of Monoclonal B-cell Lymphocytosis (MBL) in Israel and potential risk and **שם העבודה:** prognosis factors

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**תקציר:**

#### **Aim:**

The purpose of this study is to evaluate risk factors and prognosis factors associated with MBL in the Israeli population using four epidemiological studies. 1) We will estimate the prevalence of MBL in Israel among Jews and Arabs. 2) We will evaluate genetic risk factors and medical conditions associated with risk of MBL. 3) We will evaluate risk factors associated with progression to CLL among individuals with chronic lymphocytosis. 4) We will evaluate the association between chronic lymphocytosis and the risk of developing serious infections, cancers and overall survival compared to age and sex matched controls.

#### **Significance:**

This is the first epidemiological study that will evaluate the prevalence of MBL in Israel. Since MBL have clinical consequences such as serious infectious complications and elevated risk for cancers and CLL in particular, it is important to understand the extent of this condition among the Israeli population. If the prevalence will be found within the reported range of 3-12%, this means that between 300,000 to 1.2 million people in Israel may have this condition. These individuals will then need to be advised to screen for cancers and take preventive actions against infections. Given that MBL has a strong familial component, it is important to know whether there are genetic differences between Arabs and Jews in relation to MBL risk.