Figure S1. Study Flow Diagram

612 Records screened

622 Duplicates removed

First exclusion: 444 records
Animal models, case studies not MDS related, cellular studies, congenital anemias, guidelines, news items, no chelation only iron overload, oxidative stress syndrome, quality of life studies, transplant studies, not on MDS, book chapters, editorials, language, literature reviews, meeting items not MDS related.

168 Full text articles and meeting abstracts reviewed for relevance

Second exclusion: 157 articles and meeting abstracts
*Case study:18
*Cost benefit analysis; not treatment study:6
*Opinion; editorial; correspondence; not original research: 19
*Not original data; duplicate of paper; analysis of previous study: 8
*No chelation comparison group: 64
*No survival/median survival: 10
*Not MDS: 3
*Not chelation study: 22
*Serum ferritin outcome: 2
*Incomplete data: 2
*Unable to locate: 3

11 Articles/Meeting abstracts for final consideration

8 Observational studies included

Third exclusion: 3 articles
Incomplete data: 2
Projected median survival: 1