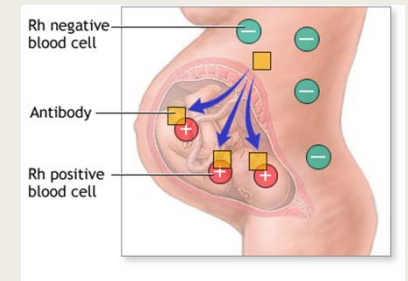


# Antenatal case with an FMH where prophylaxis wasn't enough !



# 1990's Administration of RhD-Ig



- Post delivery
- administration of RhD-Ig reduces the incidence of Rh isoimmunisation from ~ 13 % to 1 - 2%
- Studies showed that if RhD-Ig is also given antepartum at 28 weeks and 34 weeks gestation
- Rh isoimmunisation can be further reduced to <0.2%

# Australia commenced antenatal prophylaxis in November 2002

Short-term strategy  
 (began November 2002)  
 Rh Neg Antenatal Primigravida

Routine antenatal prophylaxis at 28 & 34 wks during their first pregnancy



625IU

Post partum: imported product Canadian product WinRho SDF 600IU



600IU

625IU

Mid-term strategy  
 All Rh Neg antenatal  
 1<sup>st</sup> January 2005

Routine antenatal prophylaxis at 28 & 34 weeks for all Rh D neg women



625IU

Post partum imported product Canadian product WinRho SDF 600IU



600IU

Long-term strategy  
 Mid 2006

Routine antenatal prophylaxis at 28 and 34 weeks for all Rh D neg women  
 Post partum  
 Australia self-sufficient in Rh D immunoglobulin



625IU

March 2007

Australian & New Zealand Society of Blood Transfusion Ltd

The Royal Australian and New Zealand College of Obstetricians and Gynaecologists

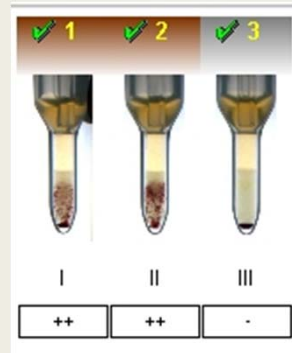
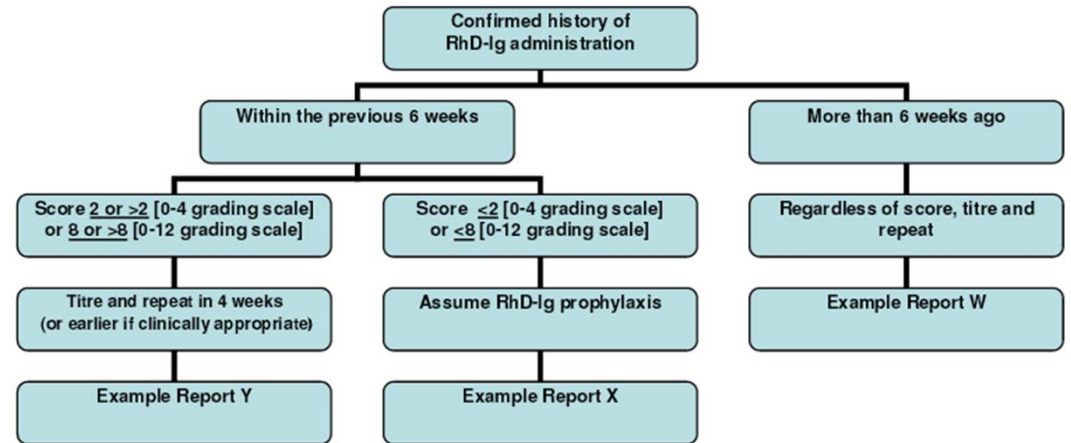
3rd Edition, March 2007

**GUIDELINES  
FOR  
BLOOD GROUPING & ANTIBODY SCREENING  
IN THE  
ANTENATAL & PERINATAL SETTING**

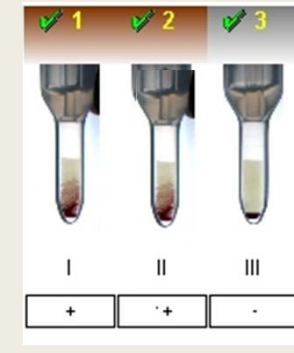


**FLOW CHARTS**

**a) Confirmed RhD-Ig administration**



RhD-Ig 2 weeks ago



RhD-Ig 6 weeks ago

# 2016 -Current Rh D Ig dosing recommendations RhD negative pregnant women



Event	RhD Immunoglobulin Dose
1 <sup>st</sup> trimester sensitising events	250IU
2 <sup>nd</sup> and 3 <sup>rd</sup> trimester sensitising events	625IU
Sensitising events in multiple pregnancies: all trimesters	625IU
Routine prophylaxis at 28-30 and 34-36 weeks	625IU
Postpartum (Birth of a Rh Positive baby)	625IU (dependant on Kleihauer)

- Antenatal case

- 12/02/2016

- Gestation 37+ weeks

- Presented to MHW ED

- 5 days decreased fetal movements



# Antenatal blood tests

BB warnings

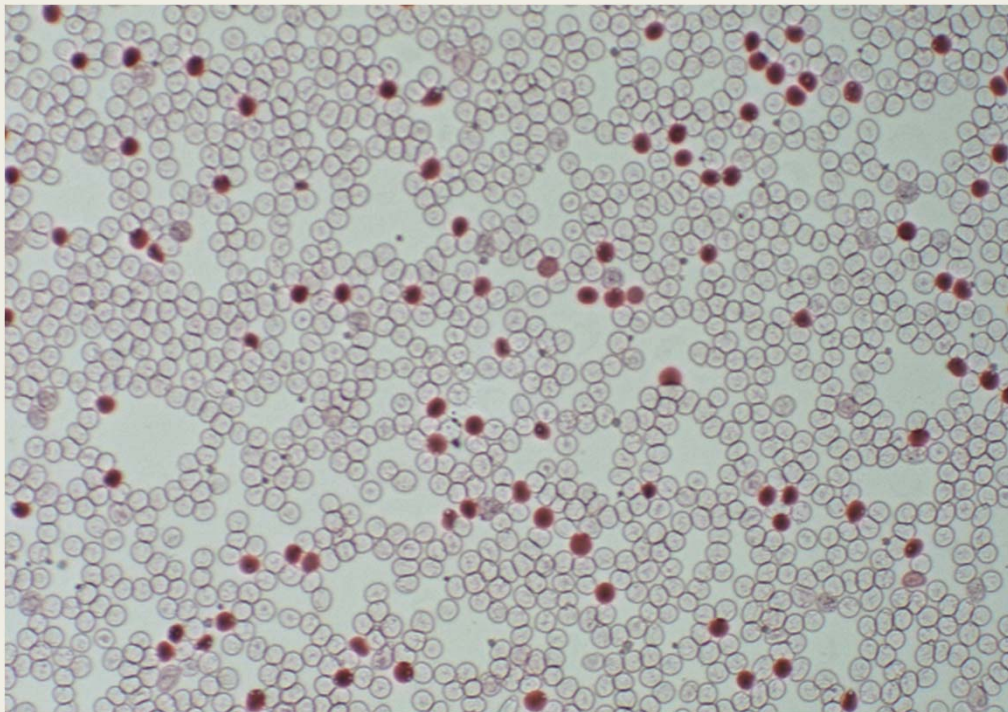
List of Requests/samples				
Request	Date	Time	Doctor	Tests Requested
	16/09/15	11:05	RASMI	U
	04/12/15	07:15	RASMI	FBE, GTTP, Ferr, VITD, VzG, RAN
	16/12/15	09:00	M	RHIG
	16/12/15	09:45	PERM02	LFT
	03/02/16	09:45	M	RHIG
	03/02/16	10:15	PERM02	LFT, FBE, TBA, GBSS
	12/02/16	12:09	M	FBE, Ue, LFT, UA, TBA, U, AST
	12/02/16	13:40	WALKS	KLEI, B2GP1, ACA, LAS, TSH, TA, INR, APTT, PARVO,

- 16/09/2015    19+ weeks    Ultrasound    Normal fetal development
- 04/12/2015    27+weeks    Blood Group    A RhD Negative
- Antibody screen    Negative
- 16/12/2015    29+ weeks    RhD Ig given
- 03/02/2016    35+ weeks    RhD Ig given

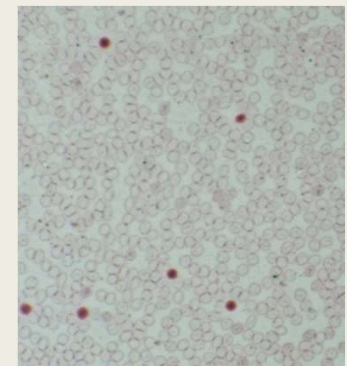


12/02/2016

# Kleihauer – fetal cells detected



Patient



Positive Control



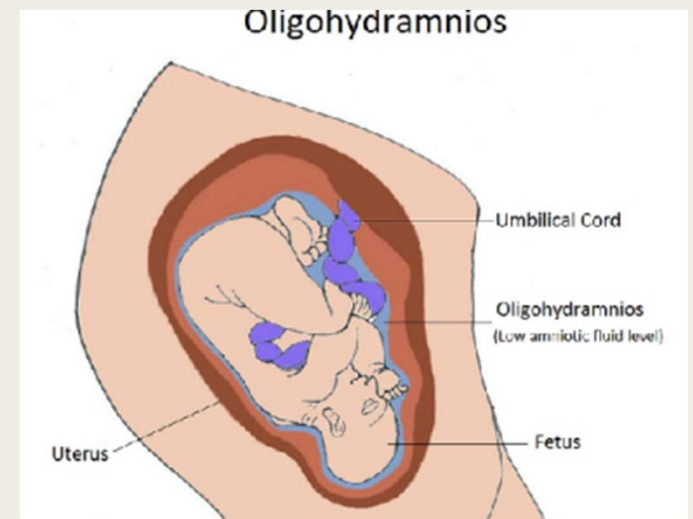
# 12/02/2016

- Friday evening shift @ 2200
- Abtectcell III 0.8% RhD Negative Screening Cells - Negative
- Mini titre = 16 (Diamed CAT method – quick)
- Kleihauer – Positive ++++
- Doctor notified
- Flow cytometry FMH will be performed on Monday

# FDIU

- Ultrasound confirmed fetal death in utero (FDIU)
- Oligohydramnios (low amniotic fluid level)
- Fetal ascites
- Head and neck oedema
- Mother underwent induction of labour
- Delivered a stillborn baby girl at 0159 on 14/02/2016
- Weight 2647g

**Cord blood unsuitable for testing due to marked haemolysis**

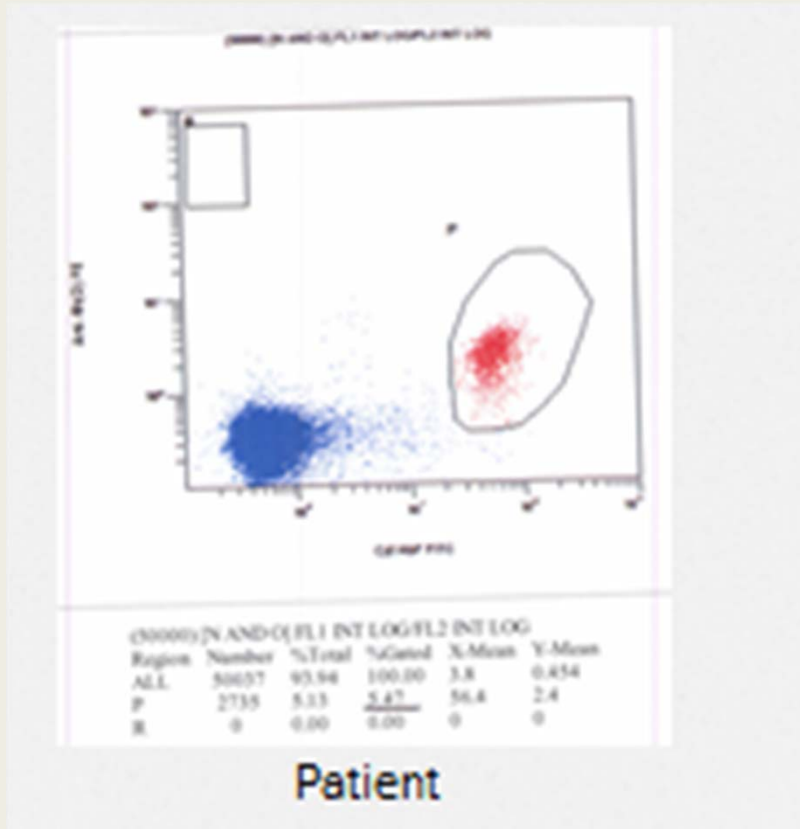


Monday 15/02/2016

Flow cytometry FMH

Fetal cells = **5.47 %**

FMH Volume = **136.8 ml**



# Monday 15/02/2016 : reviewed all results



- Primigravida
- No history of transfusion or previous pregnancy
- Shared care between Local GP / MHW
- FMH = 136.8 ml
- Antibody screen on 04/12/2015 @27+wks = Negative
- No further antibody screens performed until 12/02/2016
- Antibody screen now positive – **stronger reactions than expected with RhD Ig**
- Titre = 16
- ? **Passive Anti-D or alloimmune Anti-D**



Currently if RhD-Ig is administered during pregnancy it is impossible to serologically distinguish between this passive immunity and low-level alloimmune anti-D otherwise stimulated by pregnancy or transfusion



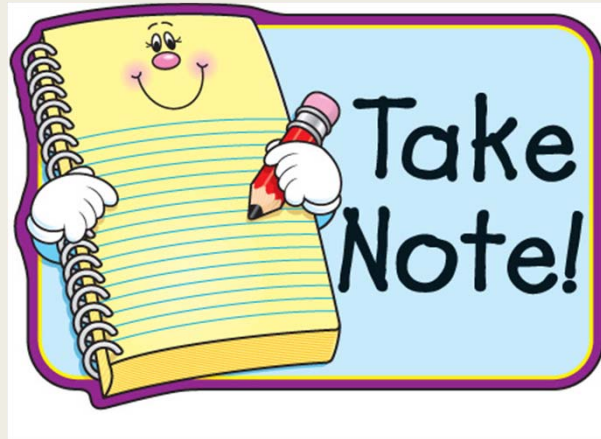
Guidelines for the use of Rh(D)  
Immunoglobulin (Anti-D) in obstetrics  
in Australia

Rh antibody testing and assessing magnitude of feto-maternal haemorrhage	
<b>Recommendation 5</b>	<b>Grade</b>
Blood should be taken for Rh antibody titre prior to administration of Anti-D, in order to detect those who have already become immunised.	Consensus-based recommendation
<b>Recommendation 6</b>	<b>Grade</b>
At 34 weeks gestation the test may be omitted if prophylactic Anti-D was given at 28 weeks.	Consensus-based recommendation
<b>Recommendation 7</b>	<b>Grade</b>
Rh (D) immunoglobulin should not be given to women with preformed Anti-D antibodies except where the preformed Anti-D is due to the antenatal administration of Rh (D) immunoglobulin.	Consensus-based recommendation
<b>Recommendation 8</b>	<b>Grade</b>
If it is unsure whether the Anti-D detected in the mother's blood is passive or preformed, the treating clinician should be consulted. If there is continuing doubt, Rh (D) immunoglobulin should be administered.	Consensus-based recommendation
<b>Recommendation 9</b>	<b>Grade</b>
All women who are given Anti-D in response to a potentially sensitizing event should have the magnitude of potential feto-maternal haemorrhage assessed and if necessary further Anti-D administered as appropriate. When more than four doses of anti-D are given and testing indicates that further anti-D will be required, consideration may be given to using the intravenous route for subsequent doses of anti-D. This will require anti-D specifically intended for intravenous usage (eg, Rhophylac).	Consensus-based recommendation



Do we issue prophylactic RhDIg to this patient ?

Professor – said NO !



- Added notes in computer to follow up patient at next visit in 4-6 weeks ?

23/02/2016 - Returned 11 days later

sample: P083111


Ab. screening: I,II,III (IAT) (S053)

Test time: 23/02/2016 1:03 PM

Tested by:  
Verified by:

S0531.0404/17.05/269047

Comment:



**Current Results**

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
Anti-A	Anti-B	Anti-D VI-	Cl	A1	B	I	II	III	
++++	-	-	-	-*	++++	++	+++	+	

Result:  
**A Rh D negative ABS positive**

- No mixed field with Anti-D
- Antibody reactions stronger
- Also Weak reactions with
- Rh neg rr cells



23/02/2016

IAT Panel

Anti - D, C, & E

Reactions with rr

Anti-D titre : 16

Phenocell B 0.8% Antigen Composition Sheet

Batch No: 2653 148

Expiry Date: 2

Cell No	Reference No	Rh Phen.	RH						KEL			FY		JK		MNS				P1PK	LE		LU	CO	Additional Typings	Cell No	Titre	Res		
			D	C	E	c	e	C'	K	k	Kp*	Fy <sup>a</sup>	Fy <sup>b</sup>	Jk <sup>a</sup>	Jk <sup>b</sup>	M	N	S	s	P1	Le <sup>a</sup>	Le <sup>b</sup>	Lu <sup>a</sup>	Co						
1	4104240	R <sub>1</sub> <sup>w</sup> R <sub>1</sub>	+	+	0	0	+	+	0	+	0	+	0	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	0	+	0	0		1	8		
2	4124562	R <sub>1</sub> R <sub>1</sub>	+	+	0	0	+	0	+	+	0	0	+	0	+	+	0	+	0	+	0	+	0	+	0	0	Lu:14	2	10	
3	2165671	R <sub>1</sub> R <sub>1</sub>	+	+	0	0	+	0	0	+	0	0	+	0	0	0	+	0	+	0	+	0	0	0	0		3	8		
4	4125085	R <sub>2</sub> R <sub>2</sub>	+	0	+	+	0	0	0	+	0	+	0	+	0	+	0	+	0	+	0	+	0	0	0		4	12		
5	4398907	R <sub>2</sub> R <sub>2</sub>	+	0	+	+	0	0	0	+	0	0	+	0	+	0	+	0	+	+	+	+	0	+	+	0		5	12	
6	2094621	r'r	0	+	0	+	+	0	0	+	0	+	+	0	+	0	+	0	+	+	+	+	0	+	0	+		6	5	
7	2053543	r'r	0	0	+	+	+	0	0	+	0	0	+	+	0	+	0	+	0	+	0	+	0	+	0	0		7	8	
8	2054247	rr	0	0	0	+	+	0	+	+	0	+	+	0	+	0	+	0	+	+	+	+	0	+	0	0		8	0 +/-	
9	2193428	rr	0	0	0	+	+	0	0	+	0	0	+	0	+	0	0	+	0	0	0	0	0	0	0		9	0 +/-		
10	2056411	rr	0	0	0	+	+	0	0	+	0	+	0	0	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	0	+	0	0	+		10	0	
11	2055439	rr	0	0	0	+	+	0	0	+	0	0	+	+	0	+	+	0	+	0	+	0	+	0	0		11	0 +/-		
Auto																											Auto	0		

Papain Panel

Rh-hr	Spender Donor / Donateur Donante Dador	Rh-hr	Rh-hr						Kell				Duffy		Kidd		Lewis		P	MNS				Luth.		Xg	Special Antigens / Antigenes part. / Antigeni particolari / Otros Antigenos / Tipos especiales	Resultado / Resultado		
			D	C	E	c	e	C'	K	k	Kp <sup>a</sup>	Kp <sup>b</sup>	Js <sup>a</sup>	Js <sup>b</sup>	Fy <sup>a</sup>	Fy <sup>b</sup>	Jk <sup>a</sup>	Jk <sup>b</sup>	Le <sup>a</sup>	Le <sup>b</sup>	P <sub>1</sub>	M	N	S	s	Lu <sup>a</sup>			Lu <sup>b</sup>	Xg <sup>a</sup>
1	CCC <sup>w</sup> D.ee R <sub>1</sub> <sup>w</sup> R <sub>1</sub>	096209	+	+	0	0	+	+	0	+	0	+	nt	nt	+	0	0	+	+	+	0	+	+	+	0	+	+		1	12
2	CCD.ee R <sub>1</sub> R <sub>1</sub>	538206	+	+	0	0	+	0	+	+	0	+	nt	nt	0	+	0	0	+	+	0	+	0	+	+	+	+		2	12
3	ccD.EE R <sub>2</sub> R <sub>2</sub>	240811	+	0	+	+	0	0	0	+	0	+	nt	nt	+	+	0	0	0	+	+	0	+	+	0	+	0		3	12
4	Ccddee r'r	178782	0	+	0	+	+	0	0	+	0	+	nt	nt	0	+	0	0	0	+	+	+	+	+	0	+	+		4	12
5	ccdEe r''r	113500	0	0	+	+	+	0	0	+	0	+	nt	nt	+	0	+	0	+	+	+	0	+	+	0	+	+		5	12
6	ccddee rr	434747	0	0	0	+	+	0	+	+	0	+	nt	nt	+	+	0	0	+	+	+	0	+	+	0	+	+		6	10
7	ccddee rr	110005	0	0	0	+	+	0	0	+	0	+	nt	nt	0	+	0	0	+	+	+	0	+	+	0	+	0		7	10
8	ccD.ee R <sub>0</sub> r	590768	+	0	0	+	+	0	0	+	0	+	0	nt	0	0	+	0	0	+	+	+	+	+	0	+	+	M1+*	8	12
9	ccddee rr	026096	0	0	0	+	+	0	0	+	0	+	nt	nt	0	+	0	0	+	0	0	+	0	+	0	+	nt		9	10
10	ccddee rr	267310	0	0	0	+	+	0	0	+	0	+	nt	nt	+	0	0	0	+	0	0	+	0	+	0	+	+		10	10
11	ccddee rr	135145	0	0	0	+	+	0	0	+	+	+	nt	nt	+	+	+	0	+	0	0	+	0	+	0	+	+	Co(b+)*	11	10

# ARCBS Report Summary

## sample from 23/02/2016

- the sample contains anti-D, anti-C, anti-E
- an unidentified antibody reacting with a number of rr cells
- anti-D is more likely to be active rather than passively acquired

Clinical Notes: 3rd trimester miscarriage (hydrops) anti-D (?passive) possible further Rh antibodies/other antibodies.

GROUP: A Rh(D): Negative

PHENOTYPE: C-E-c+e+ (r), K-Kp(a-), Fy(a+b-), Jk(a+b+), M-N+S-s+, Lu(a-b+), Co(b-), Ch+, Rg+, Yt(a+).

DAT: Negative by tube.  
Very weakly positive by Bio-Rad DAT card due to IgG (score 3).

PLASMA: Anti-D weakly reactive by saline 22°C and strongly by PEG-IAT, BioRad LISS/Coombs card and papain technique.

Titre of the Anti-D by saline-IAT vs. R0r cells is 16.

Anti-C reactive by PEG-IAT, BioRad LISS/Coombs card and papain technique.

Anti-E reactive by PEG-IAT, BioRad LISS/Coombs card and papain technique.

In addition the plasma reacts with a number of rr cells weakly by saline 22°C and slightly stronger by PEG-IAT and BioRad LISS/Coombs card (score 3-5) but was negative by RAM-IAT.

ELUATE: An acid-glycine eluate was negative when tested by tube IAT.

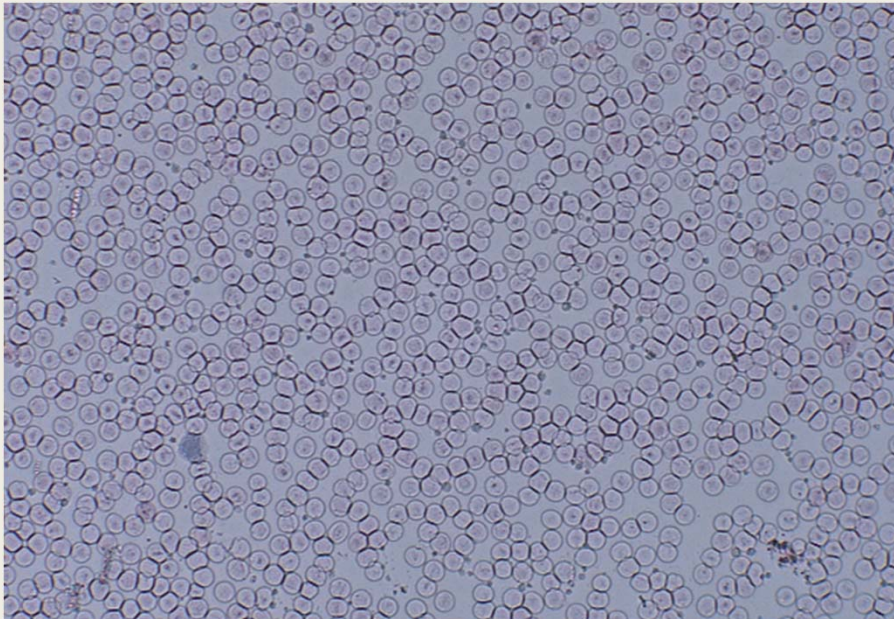
### Comments:

The blood sample contains anti-D, anti-C and anti-E and an unidentified antibody reacting with a number of rr cells.

The anti-D is more likely to be active rather than passively acquired as it reacts by saline 22°C, reacts strongly by IAT and has a titre of 16.

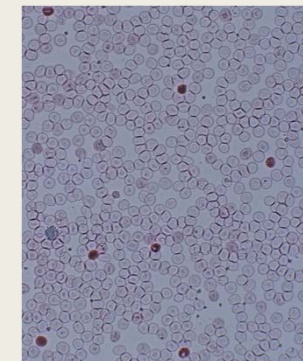
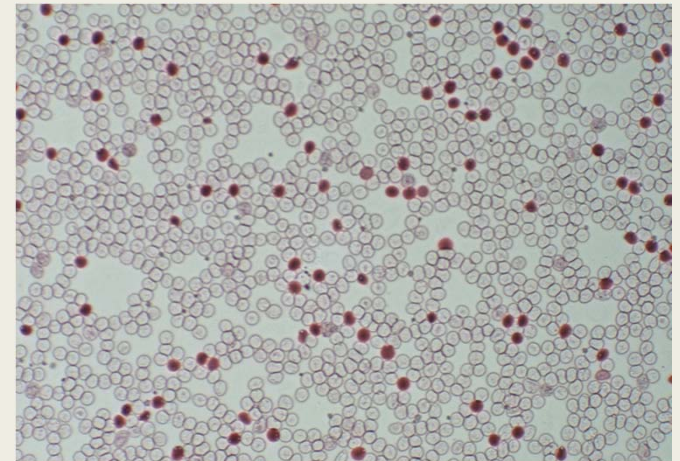
We would recommend that a further blood sample be tested in approximately 3-6 months to determine if the anti-D is still present and therefore, an active anti-D, and if the reactions with the rr cells are still present.

23/02/2016  
Kleihauer



Patient – No fetal cells

12/02/2016



Positive Control

# Antibody titre

Date	Anti-D	Anti-C	Anti-E
12 <sup>th</sup> Feb	16		
23 <sup>rd</sup> Feb	16 (ARCBS)		
24 <sup>th</sup> March	2048		
19 <sup>th</sup> May	512	32	128

# Post mortem summary

- Cause of fetal death - erythroblastosis fetalis secondary to Rhesus alloimmunisation
- Autopsy findings of hydrops and nucleated erythrocytes in the placenta support this
- No report of abdominal pain or vaginal bleeding during pregnancy
- FMH occurred in late pregnancy

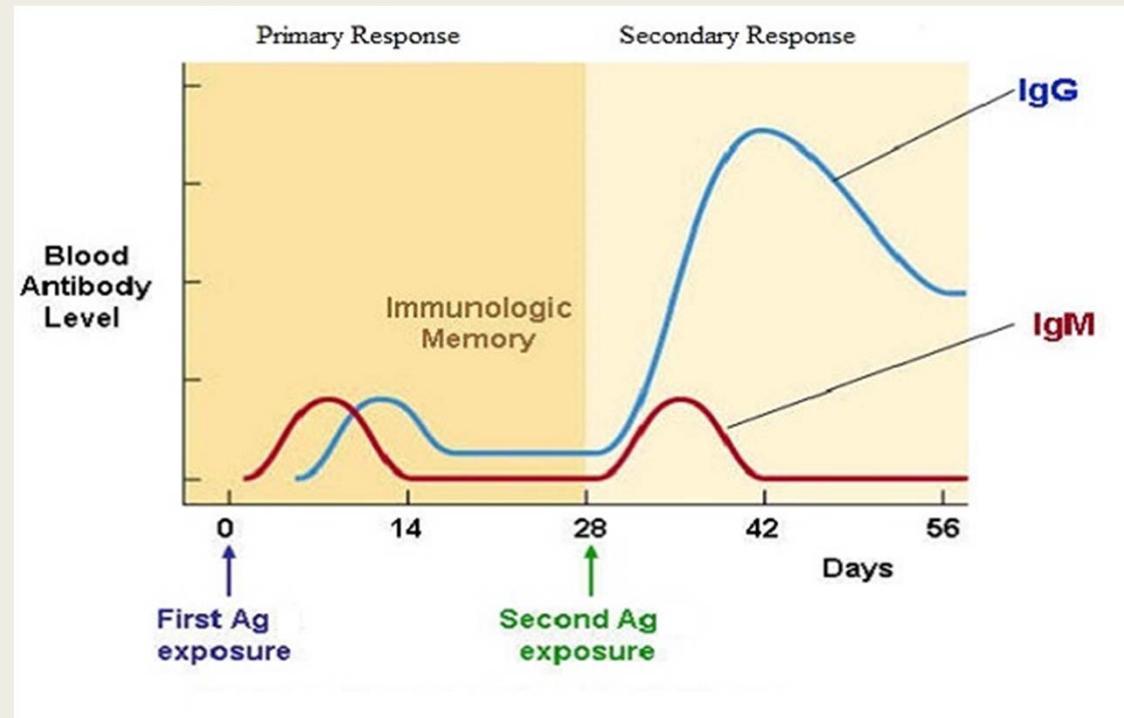
The cause of death in this infant appears to be erythroblastosis fetalis secondary to Rhesus alloimmunisation in a Rhesus D antigen negative mother. Autopsy findings of hydrops and nucleated erythrocytes in the placenta support this. In the setting of a negative history of previous pregnancy and blood transfusion, no antenatal haemorrhage, negative maternal serum anti-D during pregnancy and a positive peri-partum Kleihauer test, it is likely that there was a sensitising occult fetomaternal haemorrhage during late pregnancy between the Rhesus D negative mother and assumed Rhesus D positive fetus. This theory is supported by the presence of maternal serum anti-D in the post-partum period, which had been negative approximately two months prior.

Summary of Antenatal case :

Fetal maternal haemorrhage : Acute on chronic bleed 137+ mls

Rh D immunised

Prophylaxis was not enough !



Primary and secondary immune antibody response



**Acknowledgements : Masa Lasica - Haematology Registrar  
Diana Kolar - Senior Scientist**

