



Worldwide Initiative for Rh haemolytic disease Eradication (WIRhE)

Marcela Contreras, DBE, MD FRCPath, , FRCP, FMedSci London, UK

What is Rh Haemolytic Disease of the Newborn?

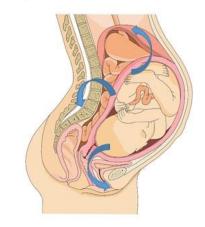
FIRST PREGNANCY

Mother Rh-; Baby rh+





Mother exposed to fetal blood cells

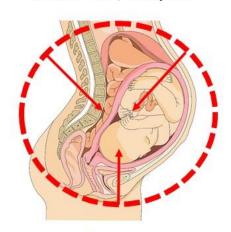




Mother sensitized to Rh+

SECOND PREGNANCY

Mother Rh-; Baby rh+





Fetal hemolysis due to mother's antibodies

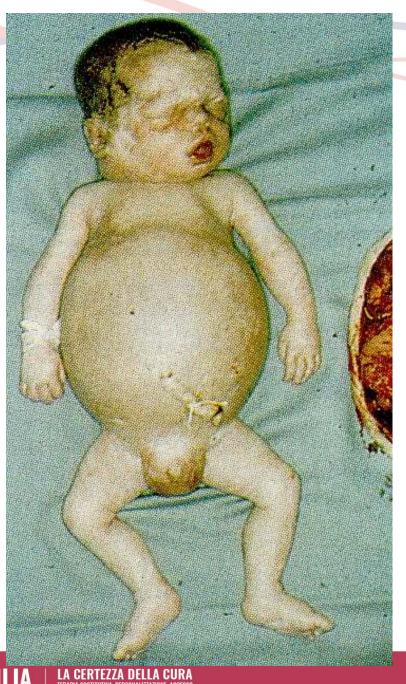
Offspring of Rh alloimmunized women

- 45 50% Normal Hb or mild anaemia, DAT +
- 25 30% moderate anaemia, hepatosplenomegaly, jaundice
- 20 25% Hydrops fetalis, high death rate in utero or after birth. In half of these, hydrops develops at 20 30w gestation, or severe

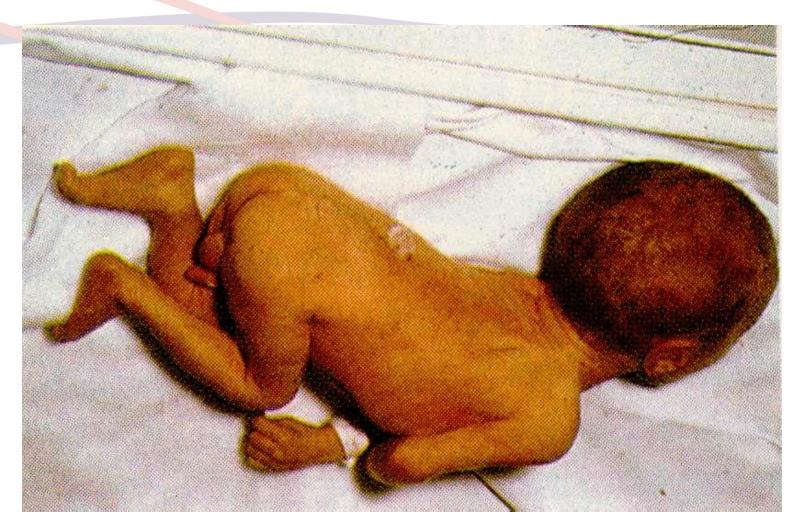
jaundice: kernicterus

with death or coreoathetosis, spasticity high-freq. deafness.

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Stillbirth with hydrops fetalis caused by Rh D antibodies



Infant with *Kernicterus* (brain damage caused by hyperbilirubinaemia).

Rh-HDN pre-prophylaxis

- 34 Rh-hdn deaths in 11035 deliveries, i.e.
 3.2/1000 births
- 1 in 200 pregnant women: Rh abs.
- of immunised mothers:
 - 20% lost infants in 1st affected pregnancy
 - 40% in subsequent affected pregnancies

Standard prophylaxis with anti-RhD Ig

postnatal

- 100 300μg (500 1500 iu) if baby
 is RhD positive (country dependent)
- antenatal for sensitizing events during pregnancy (e.g. amniocentesis)
 - 50μg before 20 weeks
 - 100-300μg after 20 weeks

Must be given within 72h of event

Conclusion from 2001 Cochrane review on Routine Antenatal Prophylaxis

- With post-natal prophylaxis, the risk of RhD immunisation after a 1st pregnancy is reduced from 17% to ~ 1.5%.
- AN prophylaxis reduces risk to ~ 0.2%.
- No adverse effects of AN prophylaxis reported

Crowther 2001

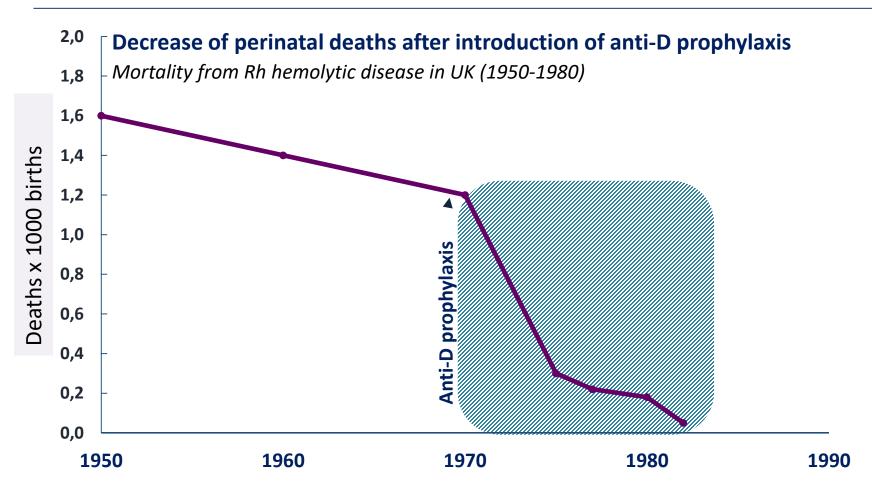


Fetal Genotyping for RhD: Maternal plasma typing by a quantitative PCR before 28 weeks, to predict need for AN prophylaxis. Controls confirm the presence of fetal DNA. Saves at least 40% of anti-D lg when fetus is RhD negative.



Most common use of molecular blood group genotyping

ANTI-D IG HAS MADE RH HDN 99.8% PREVENTABLE IN HIGH INCOME COUNTRIES



From: Tovey L A. (1984) The contribution of antenatal anti-D prophylaxis to the reduction of the morbidity and mortality in Rh hemolytic disease of the newborn. *Plasma Therapy Transfusion Technology* 5: 99–104

2018 a year long celebration EDRION

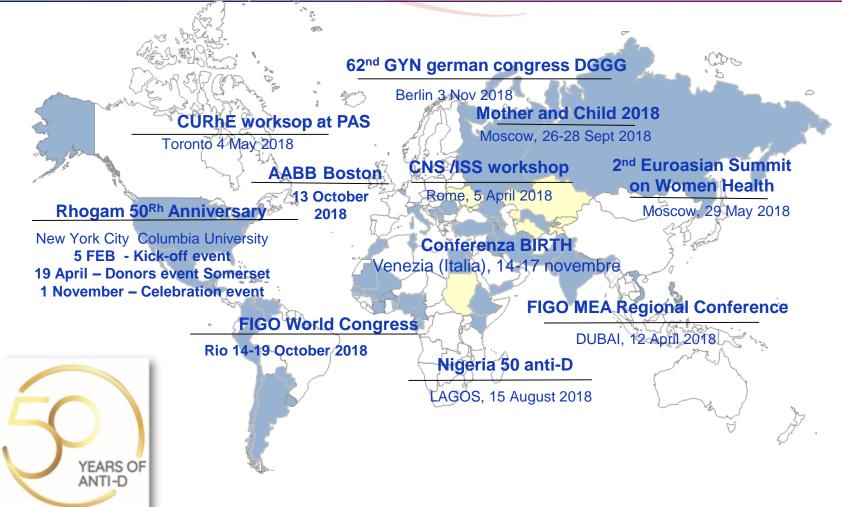
LOOKING TO THE FUTURE







"Rh-awareness" events in THE 50Rh YEAR



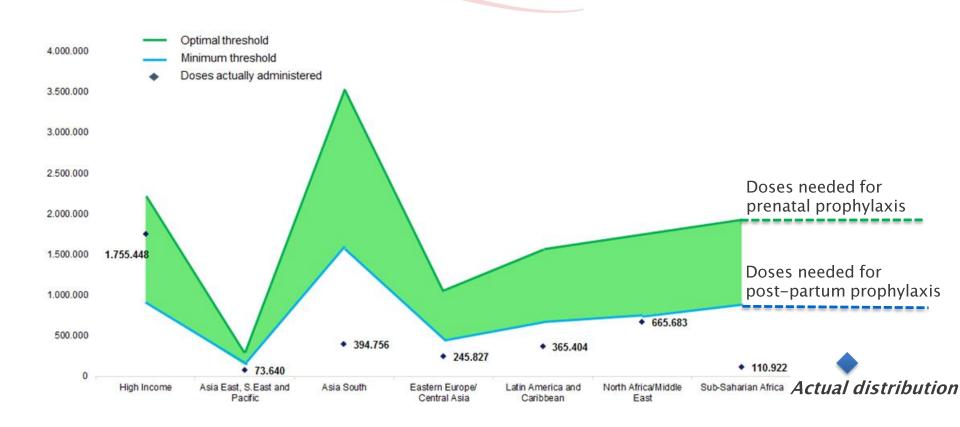
D (RH1)

 Clinically most important Rh antigen due to its high immunogenicity in RhD – negative subjects

•	European	Caucasians	82% -	88%	RhD+
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ALLIGNING GLOBALLY: IS PRACTICE FAR AWAY FROM POLICY?





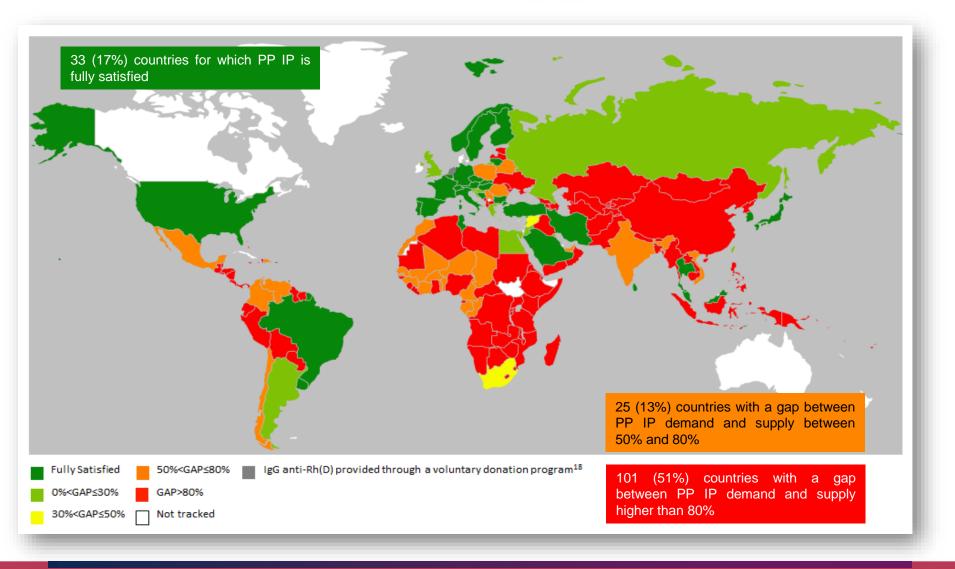
Year 2017 - Source of data:

Anti-D Doses distribution: IQVIA Midas Natality data. UNICEF Rh Prevalence: Bhutani et al. 2013, Flegr, J. (2016.

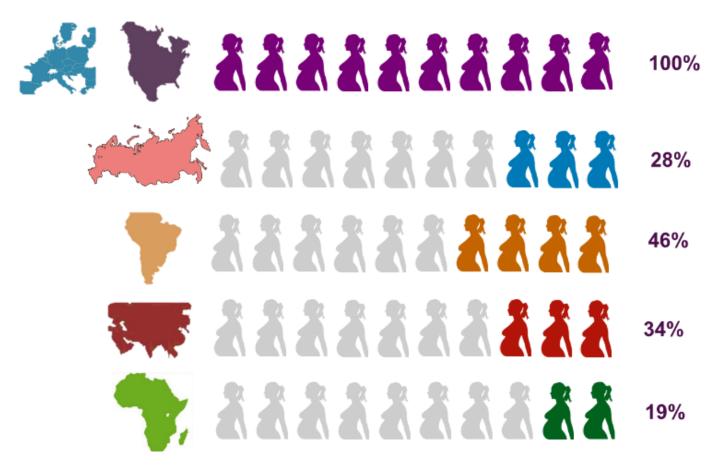


The gap study









Year 2015. Source of data:

Anti-D Doses distribution: MRB, IMS Health. Crude birth ratio. World factbook 2015. Russia: GSK research institutes.



"WIRhE" kick off event - all WELCOME!!



September 28th 2019

Florence - Spedale degli Innocenti

GLOBAL ERADICATON OF Rh DISEASE: VICTORIES AND PITFALLS

Public Symposium + John Gorman Lectureship to be given by Professor Giuseppe Remuzzi M.D., F.R.C.P.