

## 13 RH D IMMUNOGLOBULIN

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13.1 Fetal Maternal Haemorrhage & Post Partum Complications  
Section 13  
Transfusion Medicine Protocols  
Women's & Newborn Health Services  
Perth Western Australia

**ALSO see WNHS Obstetrics & Gynaecology Clinical Guidelines Section A**

*1.9 Management of Women who have Rh D Negative Blood Group*

*1.9.1 Blood group and antibody screening*

*1.9.2 Kleihauer Test*

*1.9.3 Rh D Immunoglobulin*

### 13.1 FETAL MATERNAL HAEMORRHAGE AND POST PARTUM COMPLICATIONS

Prophylactic Rh D Immunoglobulin is indicated for Rh D Negative women with no pre-formed immune Anti-D in the following circumstances:

- Post delivery of a Rh D Positive baby or fetus.
- Post fetal death in utero (FDIU) when fetal blood group is unknown.
- Post amniocentesis, amnioreduction, insertion of fetal amniotic shunts.
- Post cordocentesis.
- Post chorionic villi sampling (CVS).
- Antepartum haemorrhage (APH).
- External cephalic version (ECV) performed or attempted.
- Threatened, incomplete, missed abortion or termination of pregnancy (TOP).
- Ectopic pregnancy.
- Blighted ovum.
- Hydatidiform mole.
- Any other situation where FMH may result e.g. abdominal trauma, concealed abruption, MVA, post-coital bleeding.
- Transfusion of Rh D Positive platelets.

Rh D Immunoglobulin should be given as soon as possible after the sensitising event, but always within 72 hours. A dose offered within 9-10 days may still provide some protection.

#### RECURRENT BLEEDING EPISODES

There are currently no National Guidelines on the timing of Rh D Immunoglobulin doses where recurrent bleeding episodes continue.

In the FIRST TRIMESTER one dose of Rh D Immunoglobulin provides protection for 6 weeks up to and including 12 weeks gestation.

**PLEASE NOTE.** A subsequent miscarriage or pregnancy requiring instrumentation of the uterus will require an additional dose of Rh D Immunoglobulin irrespective of when the previous dose was given.

In the SECOND and THIRD TRIMESTERS one dose of Rh D Immunoglobulin should provide on-going protection for 72 hours provided the Kleihauer test remains Negative.