



CHILDREN'S & WOMEN'S HEALTH
CENTRE OF BRITISH COLUMBIA

CONSENT

For

RHESUS IMMUNE GLOBULIN IN PREGNANCY

1. Dr. / Registered Midwife _____ has advised me that, in the course of my pregnancy I may require Rhesus Immune Globulin.

2. I have received information about the benefits and risks associated with this therapy. I have been informed that this is a human blood product collected from volunteer blood donors who have been carefully screened by medical history and sensitive laboratory tests in order to minimize the risk of infectious disease transmission (see reverse of this sheet). I understand that this product has also been chemically treated to inactivate blood borne viruses and there are no synthetic substitutes available.

3. I have been given the opportunity to ask questions.

I consent to the injection of Rhesus Immune Globulin.

Name of Patient

Signature of Patient

Date

And/or

Name of person legally qualified to give consent

Signature of person legally qualified
To give consent

Date

Relationship to patient

Name of Witness to above signatures

Signature of Witness to above signature s

Date

PHYSICIAN / REGISTERED MIDWIFE

I have discussed the benefits and risks of Rhesus Immune Globulin therapy with the patient or substitute decision maker.

Name of Physician / Registered Midwife

Signature of Physician / Registered Midwife

OR

We certify, due to the potentially urgent need for Rhesus Immune Globulin, the inability to obtain informed consent and the lack of advance directives indicating refusal of Rhesus Immune Globulin, we are unable to obtain informed consent prior to treatment.

Name of Physician / Registered Midwife

Signature of Physician / Registered Midwife

Date

Name of Physician / Registered Midwife

Signature of Physician / Registered Midwife

Date

This form will remain valid for the duration of the pregnancy and for three weeks thereafter.

White Copy: Health Records Chart
Yellow Copy: Ambulatory Clinic Chart/Physician's Office/Other

CONSENT for Rhesus Immune Globulin (Rh Immune Globulin)

Why do I need Rh Immune Globulin?

Your blood type is Rhesus (Rh) negative. If your baby's blood type is Rh positive, baby's blood cells can get into your blood. If this happens, your body can make Rh antibodies.

What do Rh antibodies do?

Rh antibodies can kill your baby's Rh positive blood cells and cause Rhesus disease. Your next baby (or babies) might also have Rhesus disease. Rhesus disease is difficult to treat. Sometimes Rhesus disease can severely damage a baby's brain, cause a baby to be born prematurely and in severe cases babies can die from Rhesus disease.

Can I do anything to prevent Rhesus disease?

If you receive a Rhesus Immune Globulin injection before baby is born and within 72 hours after the birth, the risk of your body making Rh antibodies goes down from 1 in 10 to 1 in 1,000.

When should I receive Rh Immune Globulin?

You should receive an injection of Rh Immune Globulin at any time there is a possibility of Rh positive blood cells getting into your blood.

- at the 28th week of your pregnancy
- within 3 days of delivering an Rh positive baby
- after you have had an amniocentesis test or chorionic villus sampling test
- after you have had a miscarriage, therapeutic abortion, or an ectopic (tubal) pregnancy
- after you have had bleeding from your vagina, an injury to your abdomen during pregnancy or anything else that might cause your baby's Rh positive blood cells to get into your blood

What is Rh Immune Globulin?

Rh Immune Globulin is a blood product. It comes from blood donors who volunteer to give blood.

What if blood donors have diseases?

All donors who give blood are screened. This means if tests show that donors have Hepatitis B, Hepatitis C, or HIV (AIDS), they are not allowed to give blood.

What happens if a mistake is made and blood is collected from a donor with one of these diseases?

Since 1994 a special solvent detergent (SD) has been used on donated blood. SD kills the viruses that cause these diseases. In 1997 another step was added. This is a filtration (F) step that guards against Hepatitis A and Human Parvovirus.

Is Rh Immune Globulin safe?

There are no reports showing that the Rh Immune Globulin used in Canada has caused infectious diseases.