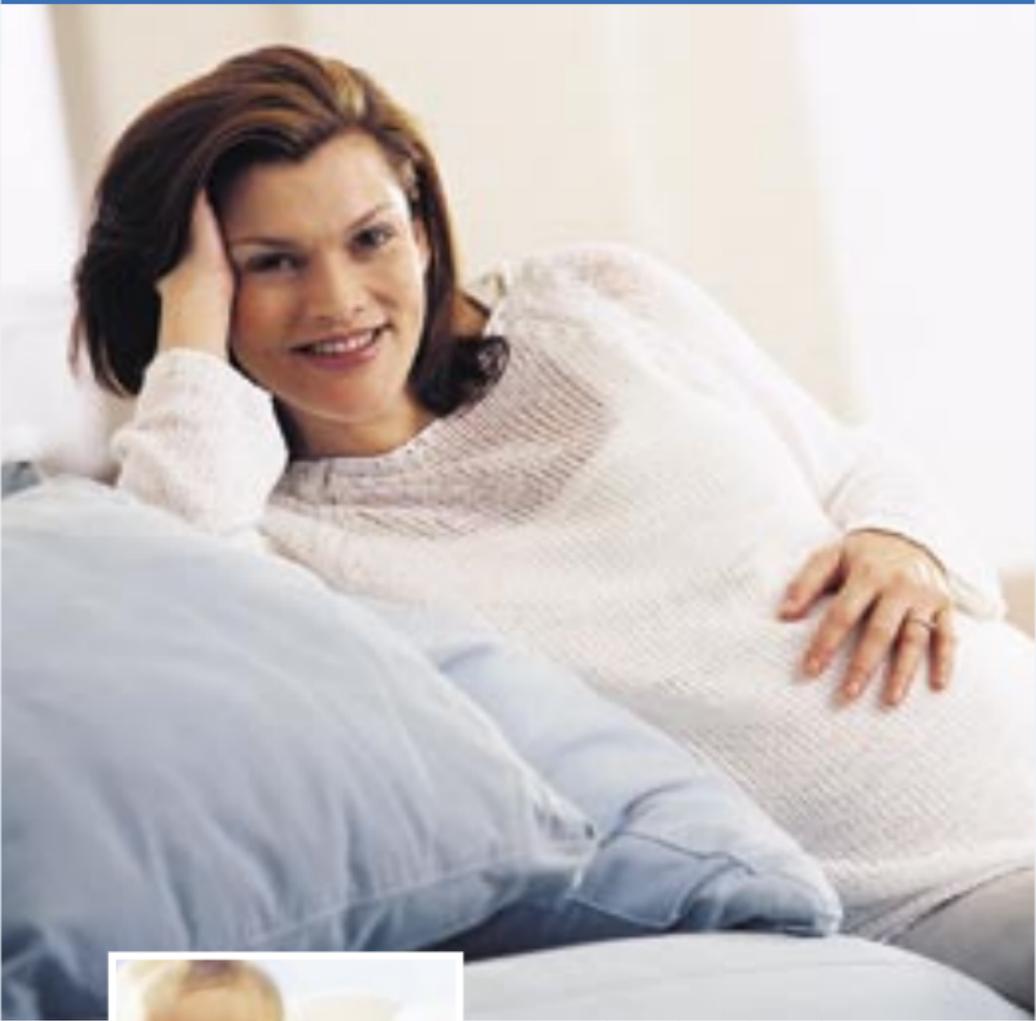


# You & Your Baby...



## WinRho<sup>®</sup> SDF

Important Information About HDN  
(Hemolytic Disease of the Newborn)

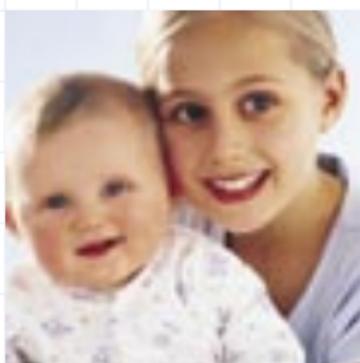
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## Hemolytic Disease of the Newborn (HDN)

Sometimes during pregnancy and delivery, a small amount of the baby's blood can cross the placenta and enter the mother's blood stream. This can also happen in events such as a miscarriage, abortion and amniocentesis. If this transfer of blood occurs from an Rh-positive fetus to an Rh-negative mother, the mother's immune system will see the baby's blood as '*foreign*' and will produce antibodies which destroy the baby's blood cells.

In the first pregnancy, most of these antibodies will remain in the mother's circulation and the baby is usually not significantly affected. During subsequent pregnancies, however, a problem may occur if the new baby is Rh-positive and if there is another transfer of blood across the placenta.

The mother's immune system has a good memory. It can rapidly produce the same antibodies again, and they can cross the placenta in large numbers and start to destroy the new baby's own blood before birth, causing a number of serious complications. Babies who have this condition are said to have Hemolytic Disease of the Newborn (HDN).



## Important Information for You & Your Baby

Your caregiver has told you that you will need an injection to avoid a particular pregnancy complication which could occur due to a blood group difference between you and your baby.

Through the timely administration of injections like the one you will receive, this pregnancy complication can be successfully avoided in women like you.



Pregnant women often have different blood groups from their babies.

This is normal and usually not a problem.

However, in some cases, these blood groups differ in an important way, which is the presence or absence of a particular protein on the outside of the red blood cell.

If you have this protein, you are *Rh-positive*.

If you do not have this protein, you are *Rh-negative*.



## How Rh Sensitization Occurs

*Rh-negative woman  
with Rh-positive fetus.*



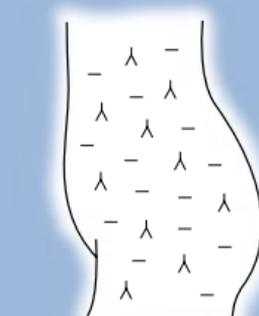
*Cells from Rh-positive  
fetus enter mother's  
bloodstream.*



*Mother becomes  
sensitized – antibodies (λ)  
form to fight Rh-positive  
blood cells.*



*Woman's body  
retains a memory  
of these antibodies.*



*In the next Rh-positive  
pregnancy, the woman  
produces large numbers  
of antibodies which  
attack fetal blood cells.*



## WinRho® SDF Effectiveness

WinRho® SDF is up to 99% effective in preventing HDN when administered correctly.

WinRho® SDF is an injection of antibodies administered with every pregnancy, when the mother is known to be Rh-negative. It works in your bloodstream to destroy any circulating blood cells from your baby before your immune system has a chance to make its own antibodies. Your baby is not affected by this injection.

Injections may also be given in connection with abortion, miscarriage or amniocentesis.

As a result of the WinRho® SDF injection, your immune system never makes its own antibodies to your baby's Rh-positive red blood cells, so you and your baby are protected from HDN.



## Adverse Effects of WinRho® SDF Therapy

Reactions to WinRho® SDF are rare in Rh-negative individuals. Discomfort and light swelling at the site of injection and slight elevation in temperature have been reported in a small number of cases.

## WinRho® SDF Safety

WinRho® SDF is made from the antibodies of carefully selected donors. Strict precautions are taken to screen and test these donors and their blood for any potentially infectious agents. Any donor or plasma donation that does not fully meet current safety standards is rejected.

In addition to stringent donor selection and collection criteria, special manufacturing processes are used to remove viruses such as HIV, hepatitis A, hepatitis B, hepatitis C, and B-19 parvovirus.

Although the potential to transmit viruses through blood products cannot be totally eliminated, the many precautions taken in the manufacture of WinRho® SDF ensure that such risks are dramatically reduced.



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This educational piece is provided by Cangene Corporation.

For more information please refer to the product monograph at [www.cangene.com](http://www.cangene.com). For inquiries, please call us toll-free in Canada at 1 877 CANGENE (226 4363).

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