

# THE GLOBAL BURDEN OF Rh DISEASE



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*CENTRE OF PERINATAL AND REPRODUCTIVE MEDICINE*  
*UNIVERSITY OF PERUGIA, PERUGIA ITALY*





**International Federation of Gynecology and Obstetrics**

# FIGO Mission

- The International Federation of Gynecology and Obstetrics (FIGO) is a unique organization, being the only international professional body that brings together **135 obstetrical and gynecological associations** from all over the world.
- FIGO is dedicated to the improvement of women's health and rights and to the reduction of disparities in health care available to women and newborns **as well as to advancing the science and practice of obstetrics and gynecology**. The organization pursues its mission through advocacy, programmatic activities, capacity strengthening of member associations and **education and training**.



# FIGO Committees and their Chairpersons

- Capacity Building in Education and Training ( Ernesto Castelazo Morales, Mexico)
- Ethical Aspects of Women's Health ( Frank A Chervenak, USA)
- Fistula and Genital Trauma (Ajay Rane, Australia)
- Gynecologic Oncology ( Neerja Bathla, India)
- Menstrual Disorders ( Rohana Hathtootuwa, Sri Lanka)
- Reproductive Medicine, Endocrinology and Infertility (Edgar Mocanu, Ireland)
- **Safe Motherhood and Newborn Health (Gerald H A Visser, the Netherlands)**
- Urogynecology and pelvic Floor (Tsung-Hsien Su, Taiwan)
- Women's Health and Human Rights, WHHR (Chiara Benedetto, Italy)
- **NCDs and Maternal Offspring Health ( Moshe Hod, Israel; Mark Hanson, UK)**

# FIGO Working Groups and their Chairpersons

- Adolescent, Pre-conception and Maternal Nutrition ( Mark Hanson, UK)
- Breast Disease ( Sven Becker, Germany)
- **Challenges in the Care of Mothers and Infants During Labour and Delivery (Roberto Romero, USA)**
- Contraception ( Jill Sheffield, USA)
- **Good Clinical Practice in Maternal-Foetal Medicine ( Gian Carlo Di Renzo, Italy)**
- Hyperglycemia in Pregnancy ( Moshe Hos, Israel)
- **Preterm Birth (Joe Leigh Simpson, USA)**
- Reproductive and Developmental Environmental Health ( Linda Giudice, USA),
- Violence against Women (Diana Galimberti, Argentina)



# FIGO

International Federation of  
Gynecology and Obstetrics

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## FIGO Committees

FIGO's Committees reflect a continued determination to improve the health and wellbeing of women worldwide in gynecology and obstetrics.

This section is in the process of being updated.

[Capacity Building in Education and Training](#)[Ethical Aspects of Human Reproduction and  
Fistula](#)[Gynecologic Oncology](#)[Menstrual Disorders](#)[Reproductive Medicine](#)[Safe Motherhood and Newborn Health](#)[Women's Sexual and Reproductive Rights](#)

Inaugural meeting:  
May 3-4 2016  
London

Chair: Gerard H.A. Visser (Nls)  
Past Chair: Will Stones (UK/Keynia)  
Diogo Ayres-de-Campos (Port)

Gerhard Theron (SA)

Middle & Far East:  
Answar Nassar (Lib)  
P.K. Shah (India)  
Luming Sun (China)

America's:  
Eytan Barnea (USA)  
Maria F. Escobar (Col)  
Isabel Lloyd (Pan)  
Wanda Nicholson (USA)



*International Federation of Gynecology and Obstetrics  
Working Group on Good Practice in Maternal-Fetal Medicine*

**Chair: G C Di Renzo**

**Expert members:**

**E Fonseca, Brasil**

**E Gratacos, Spain**

**S Hassan, USA**

**M Kurtser, Russia**

**F Malone, Ireland**

**S Nambiar, Malaysia**

**M Sierra, Mexico**

**K Nicolaides, UK**

**H Yang, China**

**Expert members ex officio:**

**C Fuchtner, FIGO**

**M Hod, EAPM**

**GH Visser, SM Committee**

**E Castelazo, CBET Committee**

**L Cabero, GDM WG**

**V Berghella, SMFM**

**Y Ville, ISUOG**

**M Hanson, DOHaD**

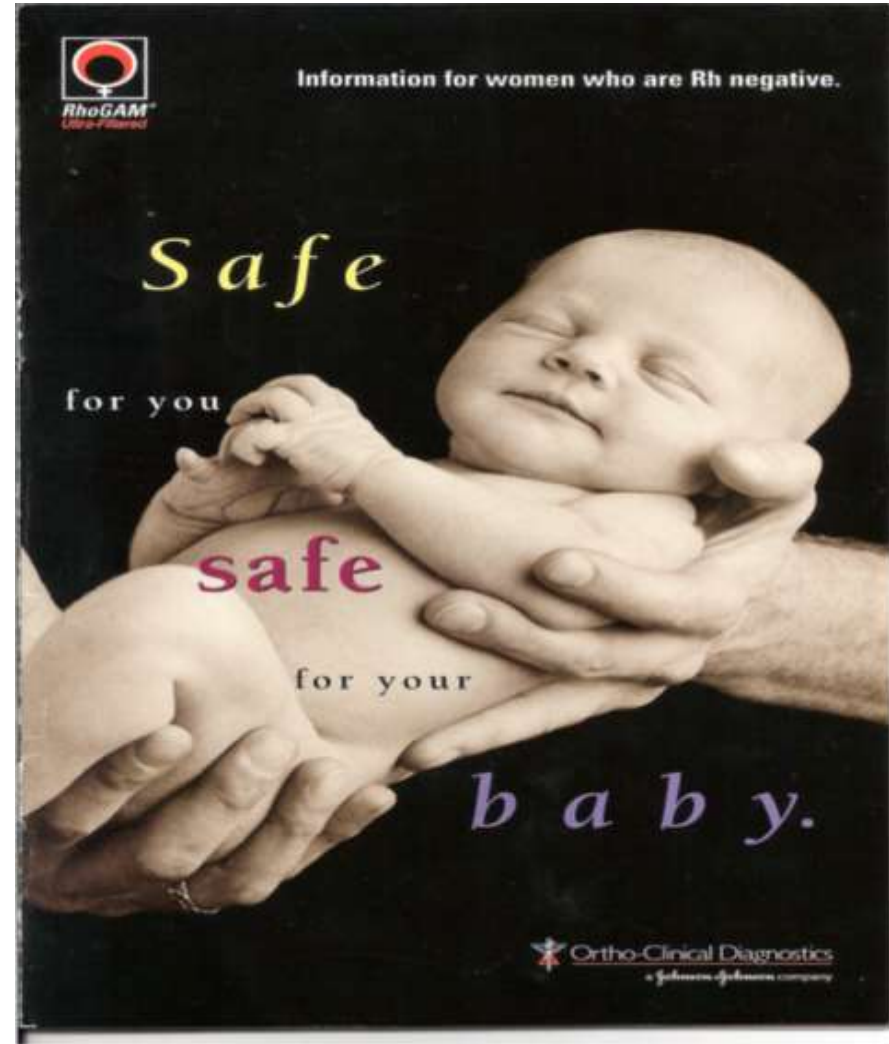
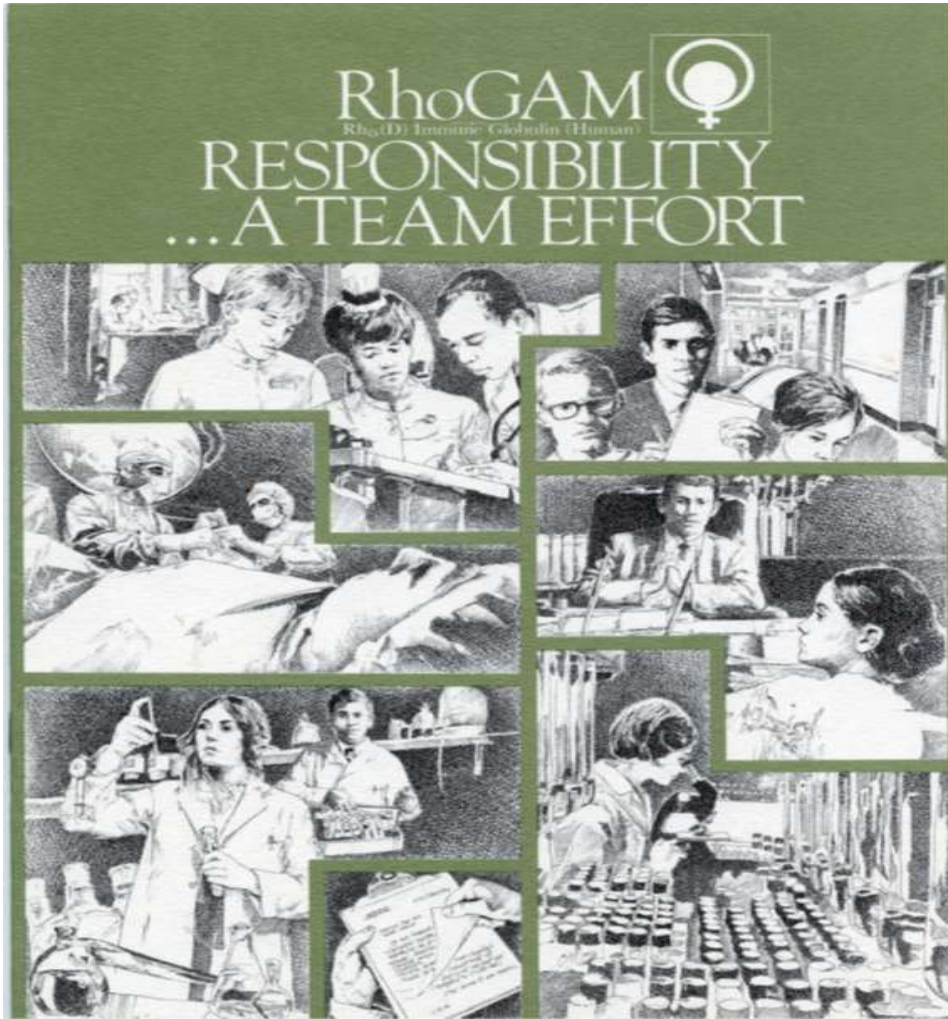
**PP Mastroiacovo, Clearinghouse**

**JL Simpson, March of Dimes**

**D Bloomer, GLOWM**

# **Rh DISEASE: the burden**





APRIL 19, 1968  
RHOGAM is APPROVED THE first anti-D IN HISTORY

**Anti-D introduction changed the fate of millions of newborns, BUT ...**



# 200.000 NEWBORNS EVERY YEAR PERISH OR ARE SEVERELY DAMAGED BY HEMOLYTIC DISEASE OF NEWBORN (HDN)

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**114.000** Newborn deaths

**55.000** Brain damage

**26.900** Deaths in utero

## HDN Global figures

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**Neonatal hyperbilirubinemia and Rhesus disease of the newborn: incidence and impairment estimates for 2010 at regional and global levels**

Vinod K. Bhutani<sup>1,2</sup>, Alvin Zipursky<sup>1</sup>, Hannah Blencowe<sup>3</sup>, Rajesh Khanna<sup>4</sup>, Michael Sgro<sup>5</sup>, Finn Ebbesen<sup>6</sup>, Jennifer Bell<sup>1</sup>, Rintaro Mori<sup>7</sup>, Tina M. Slusher<sup>1,8</sup>, Nahed Fahmy<sup>9</sup>, Vinod K. Paul<sup>10</sup>, Lizhong Du<sup>11</sup>, Angela A. Okolo<sup>12</sup>, Maria-Fernanda de Almeida<sup>13</sup>, Bolajoko O. Olusanya<sup>14</sup>, Praveen Kumar<sup>15</sup>, Simon Cousens<sup>4</sup> and Joy E. Lawn<sup>16,17</sup>

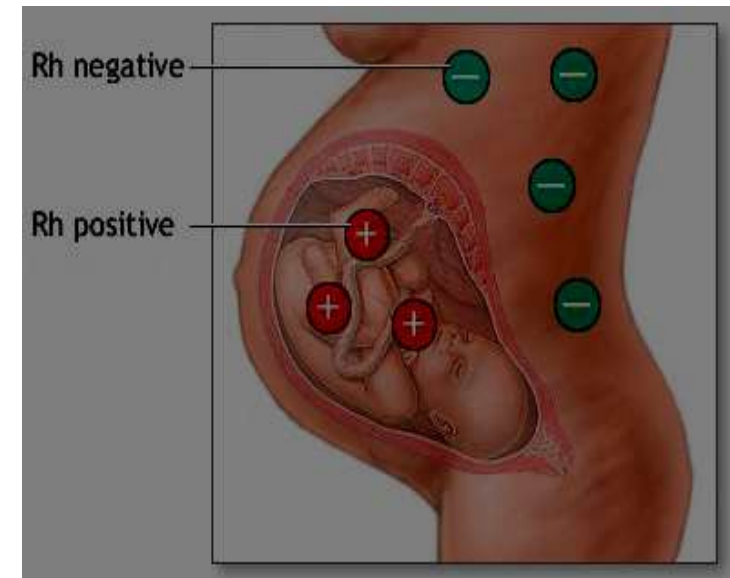
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*Geographic differences exist about*

**access, coverage, awareness**

## Sensitizing events

- **First trimester bleeding or miscarriage**
- **Medical or surgical termination of first trimester pregnancy**
- Ectopic pregnancy
- Vesicular mole
- Second trimester bleeding
- **Diagnostic invasive procedures (villus sampling, amniocentesis, cordocentesis)**
- **Antepartum haemorrhage**
- External cephalic version
- **Closed abdominal injury**
- Intrauterine death
- **Manual removal of placenta**
- **Twin deliveries**
- **Mismatched platelet or blood transfusion**



## *Rh disease prevention*

The risk of sensitization is directly proportional to the gestational age and the volume of fetal-maternal hemorrhage (FMH)

<b>Gestational age</b>	<b>Fetal-maternal hemorrhage</b>	<b>Volume (ml)</b>
<b>FIRST TRIM</b>	6.7%	0.07
<b>SECOND TRIM</b>	13.9%	0.08
<b>THIRD TRIM</b>	29%	0.13
<b>DELIVERY</b>	76%	0.19

### TESTS FOR THE SIZE OF FMH:

**KLEIHAUER-BETKE TEST**  
FLOW CYTOMETRY  
ROSETTING TECHNIQUE

<b>Volume of FMH</b>	<b>Risk of sensitization</b>
0.1 ml	1%
0.5-1 ml	25%
> 5 ml	65%

## *Rh disease prevention*

### **Routine antenatal anti-D prophylaxis (RAADP)**

- Anti-D Ig 300 microg should be routinely given to all Rh-negative nonsensitized women at **28 weeks' gestation** when the fetal blood type is unknown or known to be Rh+
- (recommended by the American College of Obstetricians and Gynecologists and the US Preventive Services Task Force)
- Alternatively, 2 doses of 100-200 microg may be given one at 28 weeks and one at 34 weeks or a single dose of 300 microg at 28 weeks



## ***Rh disease prevention***

### **Routine antenatal anti-D prophylaxis (RAADP)**

- There is no evidence that the efficacy of the single-dose or two dose regimens differs, and the chosen regimen depends on local organisational factors
- Informed consent should be obtained and recorded in the case notes

## *Rh disease prevention*

### **Routine post-partum prophylaxis**

- If Rh- mothers don't receive postpartum anti-D Ig prophylaxis after an Rh+ baby, the incidence of sensitization is 12-16%, compared to 1.6% to 1.9% in mothers receiving postpartum prophylaxis.
- Anti-D Ig 300 microg Ig should be given within 72 hours of delivery to a nonsensitized Rh- woman delivering a Rh+ baby

## ***Rh disease prevention***

- **Routine post-partum prophylaxis**
- If anti-D is not given within 72 hours of delivery or other potentially sensitizing events, anti-D should be given as soon as the need is recognised, for up to 28 days after delivery or other potentially sensitizing event (III-B)

## ***NIPT***

**What is the role of non-invasive assessment of fetal blood type?**

At present RAADP is recommended to all Rh-D negative pregnant women

“The disadvantage” of this is that about 40% of Rh-D negative women receive unnecessary antenatal anti-D Ig ...

# **NIPT**

## **What is the role of non-invasive assessment of fetal blood type?**

“Circulating Cell-Free DNA to determine the fetal RhD status in all three trimester of pregnancy”

Moise et al. Obstet Gynecol, 2016

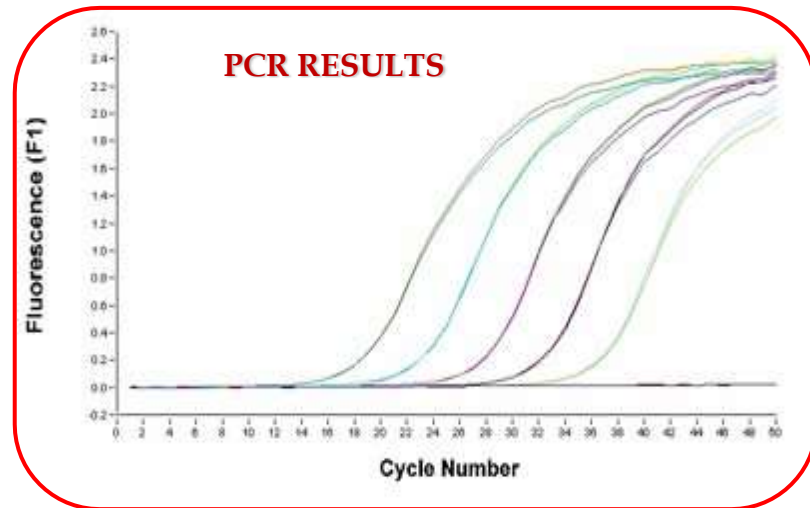
Circulating Cell-free fetal DNA can accurately predict the fetal RhD status in all three trimester of pregnancy

Di Renzo et al Transf Med Hemoth 2015

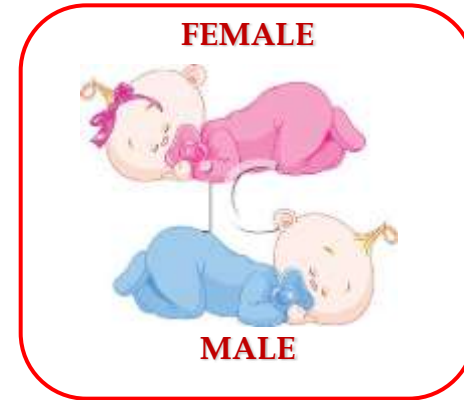
Di Renzo et al Pren Diag 2016

# CELL-FREE FETAL DNA

**Fetal gender determination**  
**Diagnostic accuracy: 99,8%**



**Fetal RhD genotyping**  
**Diagnostic accuracy: 98,5%**



# **PRENATAL ASSESSMENT OF FETAL RhD STATUS**

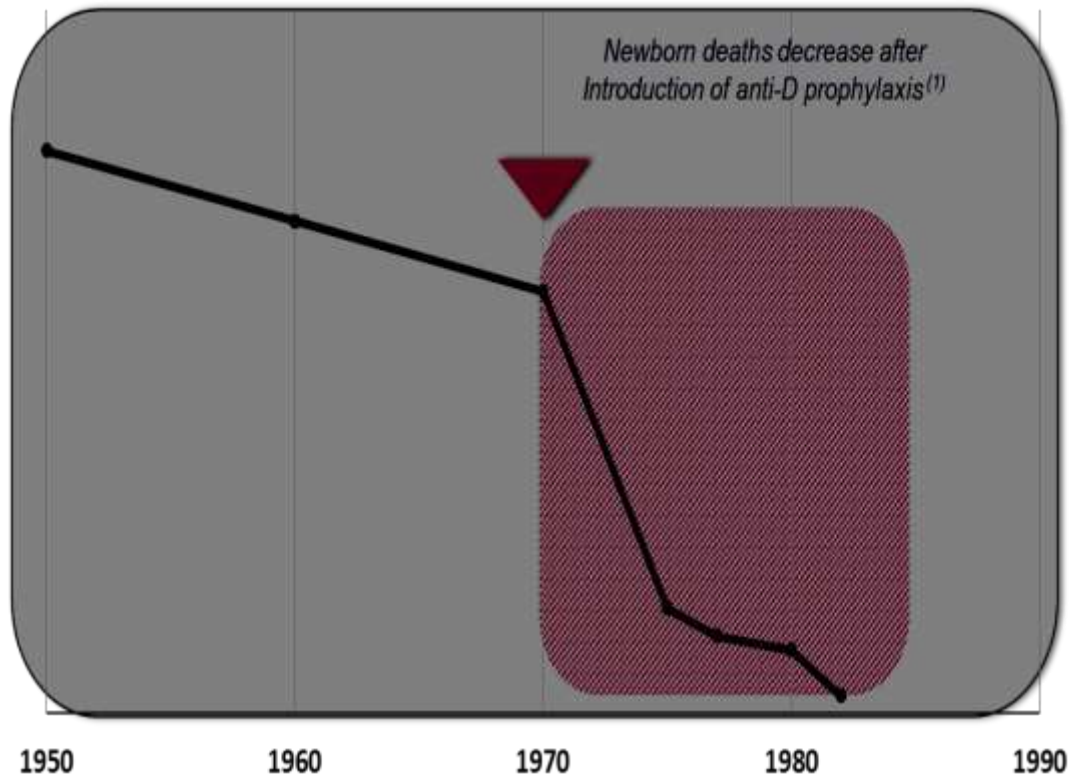
- 1. The test has been performed on 316 pregnant women**
- 2. The test is functional in clinical routine practice of non invasive prenatal diagnosis since it is easy, rapid and automated. After about 4 hours from the blood sampling it is possible to obtain the results of 20 samples simultaneously.**

<b>SENSITIVITY (%)</b>	<b>98.7</b>
<b>SPECIFICITY (%)</b>	<b>100</b>
<b>VPP (%)</b>	<b>100</b>
<b>VPN (%)</b>	<b>98.3</b>
<b>EFFICIENCY (%)</b>	<b>99.9</b>

**50 YEARS LATER....**



# Columbia 50 years celebration



THE DEPARTMENT OF PATHOLOGY AND CELL BIOLOGY  
AT COLUMBIA UNIVERSITY MEDICAL CENTER

Invites you to join us

## Celebrating 50 Years of Rh Disease Prophylaxis

Monday, February 5, 2018

The Faculty Club  
Vagelos College of Physicians and Surgeons  
630 West 168th Street, 4th Floor  
New York City

For more information and to RSVP, please contact Marquett Kennely at [mk4067@cumc.columbia.edu](mailto:mk4067@cumc.columbia.edu) or at (212) 305-2204.

**MORNING PROGRAM: 10:30–11:30 AM**

**Celebrating a Half Century of Success and Looking Ahead**


Rh disease once claimed the lives of approximately 10,000 babies each year in the United States alone. In the 1960s, Dr. Vincent Freda, an obstetrician, and Dr. John Gorman, the Director of the Blood Bank, both at Columbia, conducted pioneering research that led to a breakthrough in disease prophylaxis (RhoGAM®), effectively eradicating hemolytic disease of the newborn due to anti-Rh antibodies. Today, alongside patients and their families, we celebrate the 50th anniversary of that innovation with a special program that will address the success of this standard of care and the vision for making this therapy available to moms and babies around the world. Notable panel members will include pioneers in the history of this achievement as well as representatives of major international organizations dedicated to spreading its benefits worldwide.

**AFTERNOON PROGRAM: 2:00–3:00 PM Grand Rounds**

**Immunoprophylaxis Against Red Blood Cell Antigens: Successes and Failures**

Featured speaker:  
Jeanne Hendrickson, MD; Associate Professor of Laboratory Medicine and of Pediatrics; Associate Director, Transfusion Medicine Service, Yale University School of Medicine

Dr. Hendrickson is a pediatric hematologist and transfusion medicine specialist. Her research interests include investigating the induction and consequences of red blood cell alloantibodies in transfusion and pregnancy situations, in murine models and in human clinical settings.



**Panelists**  
**Marianne Cummins**  
**Mary E. D'Alton, M.D.**  
**Alvin Zipursky, M.D.**  
**Vinny Bhutani, M.D.**  
**Funmi Banire, M.B.A.**  
**Gerard Visser, M.D., Ph.D.**





## STATUS QUO

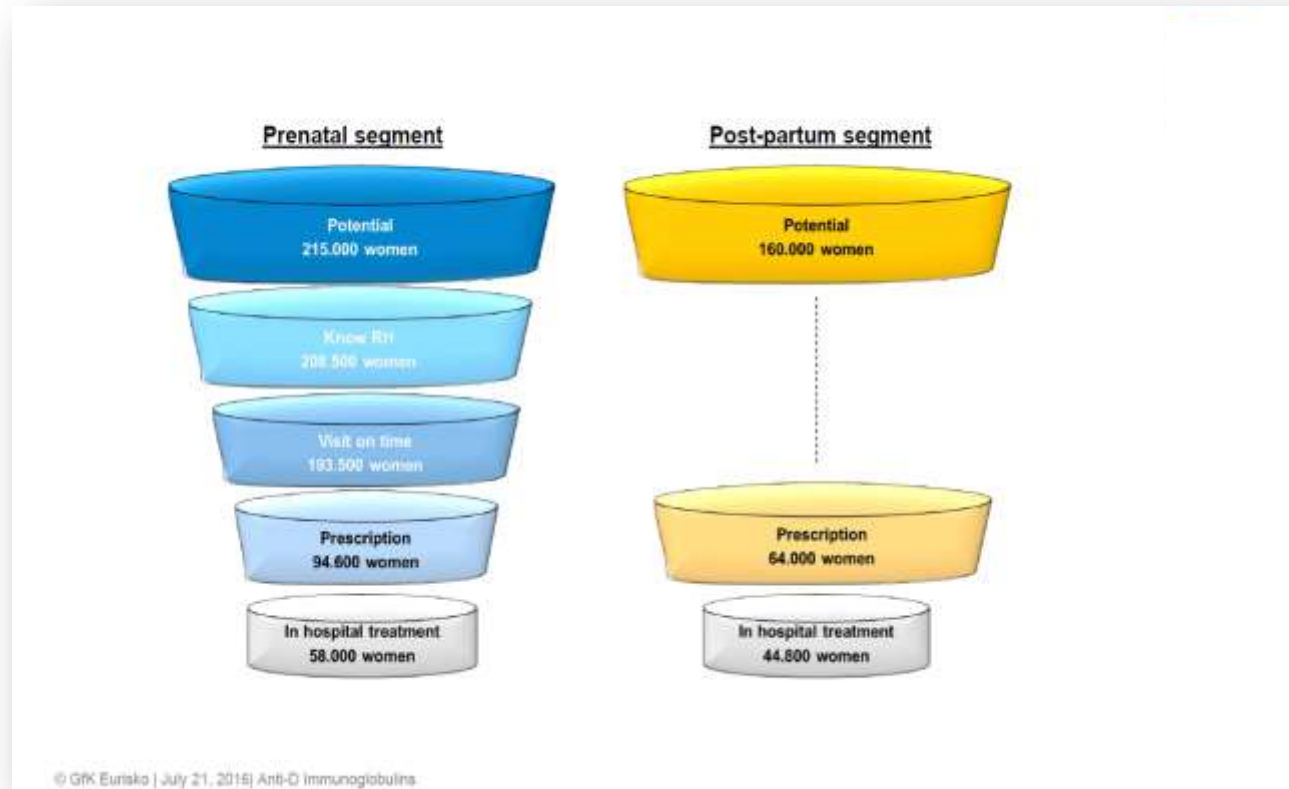
- Globally about **50% of Rh-women still do not receive** care when pregnant.
- 81% pregnant women in Africa do not receive anti-D ... about 66% in Asia ... 72% in Russia and ex CIS Countries
- MAIN REASONS : **inadequate assistance, restricted drug access, low disease awareness ...**

***Recommendations in different countries depend on the relative availability and costs of anti-D, and the costs of laboratory assessments of the volume of feto-maternal hemorrhage.***

## **RUSSIA**

### **Quantitative analysis to estimate sources of gap and magnitude. Pregnancy segment**

**90 % of pregnant women know Rh at first visit**



**28% of women only receive postpartum prophylaxis in hospital**

**STRATEGIES**

***Health professionals have been at the forefront of social changes, such as those that have gradually made smoking increasingly unacceptable, driving down smoking rates—and saving many lives***

- **Awareness** of the relevance of the problem both for ObGyns and for women
- **Resolve** the geographical disparities about Rh disease prevention
- Actually a large shared approach is the **antenatal plus postnatal prophylaxis** in Rh- women with Rh+ baby
- Global and national leadership is needed to mobilize action and improve system approaches, policies and programs ... **ideally shared guidelines!**



# TRIPLE A

IS PATIENT RECEIVING  
HEALTH COVERAGE?

**ADVOCACY**

IS DRUG REIMBURSED OR MADE AVAILABLE?

**ACCESS**

IS THE ISSUE KNOWN AND TAKEN INTO CONSIDERATION?

**AWARENESS**

# STRATEGIES

- **Integrate women and children's health into all strategic discussions**
- **Develop a global focus on effective access**
- **Building education and sustaining resiliency**
- **Investing in Public Health**
- **“One Health” Approach with global collaboration across disciplines**
- **EMPOWER WOMEN**

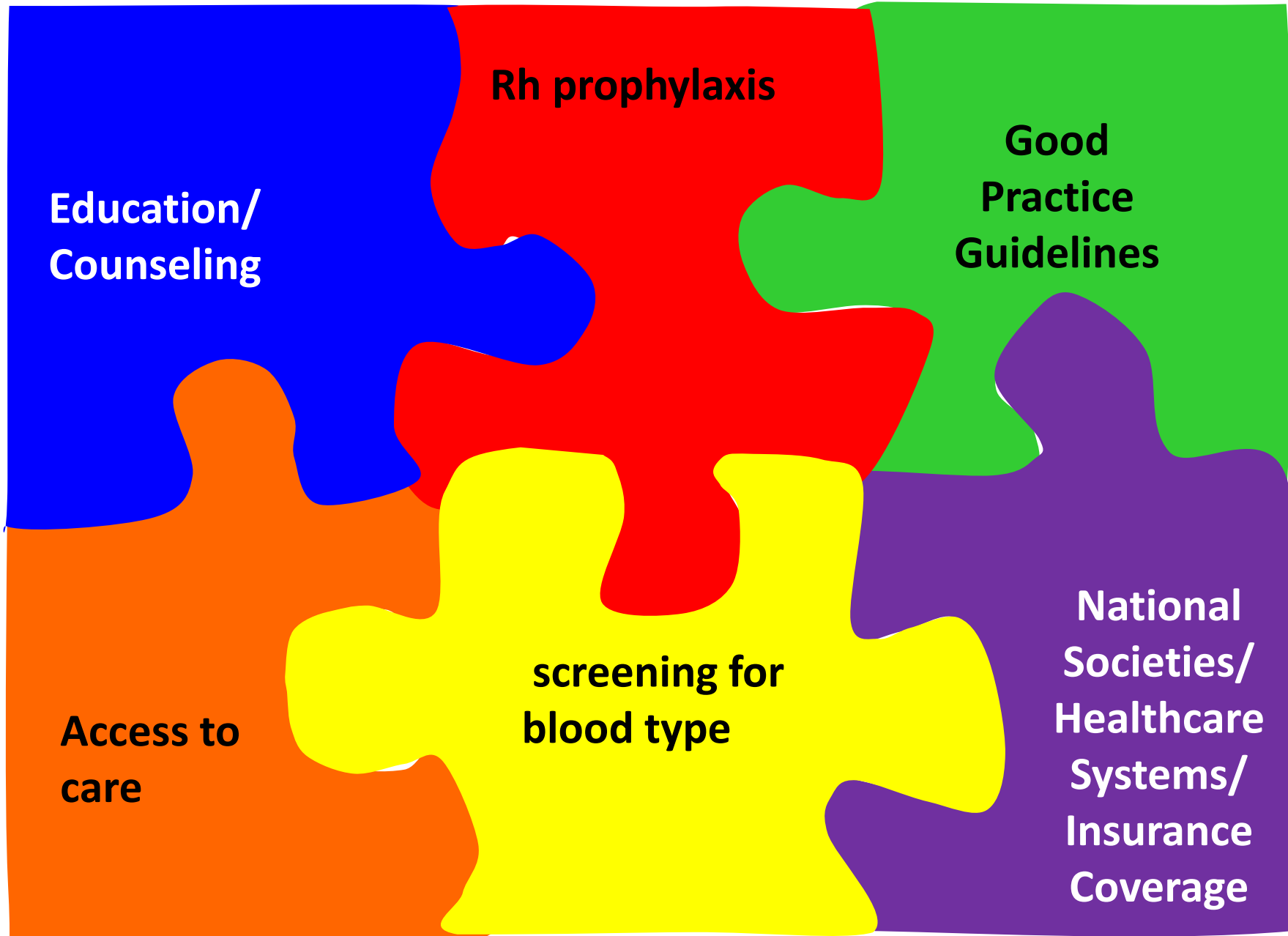
## How Can We Lead?

- Support legislation with **guidelines**
- Create **educational** opportunities at all levels
- Share **information** with our patients
- Address the **needs** of the underserved throughout the world
- **Collaborate** with colleagues in backing a “**Rh agenda**” in our homes, workplace and communities
- Apply evaluation of research so that Medical organizations can **advocate** on behalf of women to reduce undertreatment

**We share a common goal: we want healthy mothers, healthy infants, and a healthy future.**

**IF there was no doubt about research, if there was no cost impact for implementing change, if there was a uniformity of agreement in all the discussions, we would have no work.**

***So finding points of agreement has got to be where we start, educating our clinicians, the public and the governing bodies* then is the ideal next step so that finally we see that we *have* implemented changes**



**‘Alone we can do so little;  
together we can do so much.’**

**Helen Adams Keller ( 1880-1968)**

CONGRESS PRESIDENTS

Roberto Romero (USA)  
Gian Carlo Di Renzo (Italy)



# Birth

Clinical Challenges  
in Labor and Delivery

# VENICE

ITALY



14-17 | 2018  
November

# GRAZIE

merci    gracias    thank you    谢谢    DZIĘKUJEMY  
děkuji    תודה    tack    どうも  
obrigado    tak    Баярлалаа    hvala    kiitos  
choukrane    shokran    спасибо  
danke    kam  
고맙습니다 ◦ 감사합니다.    köszönöm  
ευχαριστώ    dhanyavad    blagodaram

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