

Rh Factors & Incompatibility

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What is the Rh Factor?

- Inherited protein in your RBC's
- Determines if your blood is positive or negative
 - Ex: A+, B-

What is Rh Factor Incompatibility?

- Pregnancy complication
- Mom is Rh **NEGATIVE/-** & Baby is Rh **POSITIVE/+**
 - Ex: **Mom: AB-** **Baby: AB+**

Fetal Effects of Incompatibility

- Possible Death or Stillbirth
- Anemia/Hemolytic Anemia: RBC destruction
- Jaundice: can lead to neurological damage
- Organ Damage: spleen & liver

Treatment

1. Early blood work - Determine blood type & Rh
2. **RhoGam Injection!!!** - If incompatible
 - a. Mom - 28 weeks
 - b. Baby - within 72 hrs after birth
 - reduce chances of mom forming antibodies against the fetus
 - * Given after abortion/miscarriage - prevent risk of sensitization for future pregnancies*
3. follow up with prenatal visits & antibodies test (Coombs).

Questions...

1. What can possibly happen to an Rh- mom & Rh+ baby if not given treatment (effects on fetus)?
2. What treatment is given for Rh Incompatibility?
3. Determine the Rh factor in the given scenario
 - a. Sarah is 28 weeks pregnant. She received results from blood tests of both her & baby. She is A- and the baby is A+.