



## **Rh Negative Mothers and Rhogam**

If the mother is Rh negative and the baby's blood type is Rh positive, there is an Rh incompatibility. The baby's red blood cells have the potential to leak into the maternal blood system causing the mother to produce antibodies against the baby's blood. The antibodies remain in the maternal system and can cause damage to subsequent babies. Because the baby's blood type cannot be determined during the pregnancy, all women that are Rh negative should receive Rhogam, unless they are certain the father's blood type is also Rh negative. Rhogam is a synthetic antibody that will block maternal antibody response. Rhogam is injected at 28 weeks and within 72 hours after a birth, miscarriage, abortion or amniocentesis.