

Section: Division of Nursing
Approval: _____

* **PROCEDURE** *

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HACKETTSTOWN REGIONAL MEDICAL CENTER

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MATERNAL SERVICES/4 SOUTH
(Scope)

TITLE: RHOGAM (INPATIENT)

PURPOSE: To outline procedure for Rhogam administration. Rhogam is used to prevent complications in future pregnancies for Rh negative mothers. (prevents sensitization of Rh negative unsensitized individual to Rh positive red blood cells.)

SUPPORTIVE DATA:

1. Rho(D) Immune Globulin (Human) (RhoGAM T.M.) is administered when it is known or suspected that fetal red cells have entered the circulation of an Rh negative mother unless the fetus or the father can be shown conclusively to be Rh negative.
2. Rhogam is indicated for any Rh-negative female of childbearing age who receives any Rh-positive red blood cells or component such as platelets or granulocytes prepared from Rh-positive blood. ⁽¹⁾
3. Rhogam is indicated for any Rh-negative female of childbearing age who receives any Rh-positive red blood cells or component such as platelets or granulocytes prepared from Rh-positive blood ⁽¹⁾.

KEY POINTS

- 1) If an Rh-negative woman is exposed to Rh positive blood cells during a transfusion or a prior pregnancy, she produces (1q) G antibody (anti R# (D)).
- 2) She is then considered sensitized.
- 3) If she becomes pregnant with an incompatible Rh-positive fetus, her Rh antibodies may cross the placenta and destroy fetal blood cells causing hemolytic anemia in the fetus. ⁽²⁾

EQUIPMENT LIST:

1. Providers order checked by 2 Nurses
2. Rhogam release slip, lab mount, medication record and Blood product consent/administration Sheet.
3. Prefilled syringe from lab.

CONTENT:

PROCEDURE STEPS:

1. Send cord blood to lab appropriately labeled. See 6160.042a Cord Blood Procedure.

KEY POINTS:

1. The front of all Rh-negative mothers' charts should be marked with "Rh Neg." stickers.
2. If baby is determined to be Rh negative, no intervention is necessary.

2. If cord blood results are Rh positive, or as ordered by healthcare provider; order Rhogam screen and work-up in Cerner system. Rhogam must be given within 72 hours of delivery. If Rhogam is not given within 48 hours, notify the medical provider. The lab will call when Rhogam is ready. When obtaining Rhogam from the lab, the lab will scan nurse's ID badge according to lab procedure. Never give Rhogam without double checking the baby's cord blood studies.
3. Nurse identifies patient, nurse administers Rhogam as an intramuscular injection after cleansing area with alcohol wipe. This product is for intramuscular injection only.
4. Observe wound for adverse reaction
 - 1) Contraindicated for individuals known to have had an anaphylactic or severe systemic reaction to human globulin.
 - 2) Adverse reactions extremely rare.
 - 3) Discomfort at the site.
 - 4) Slight elevation of temperature
 - 5) Myalgia and lethargy
 - 6) Slight elevation of bilirubin levels.
5. Write the time and date, Lot number and expiration date of product on patient ID card.
6. Give the card to mother, which states the Rh-negative mother has received Rhogam. Instruct patient to carry card in wallet in the event of future situation where Rhogam may be needed.
7. Dispose of empty syringe in syringe box.
8. Chart Rhogam administration and lot number and expiration date in Cerner system (enter AD HOC forms, Women's Services, then select Rhogam.
9. Note on sticker in front of chart that Rhogam was given.

References:

- (1) Rho(D) Immune Globulin (human) Rhogam TM
Package insert ORTHO Diagnostic Systems, Inc.
Johnson & Johnson Company
Raritan, NJ 08869
- (2) Core Curriculum, Maternal Newborn Nursing
Edited by Susan Mattson and Judy E, Smith, NAACOG, WB SAUNDERS Co., 1993