

## Expert Reference Group (ERG)

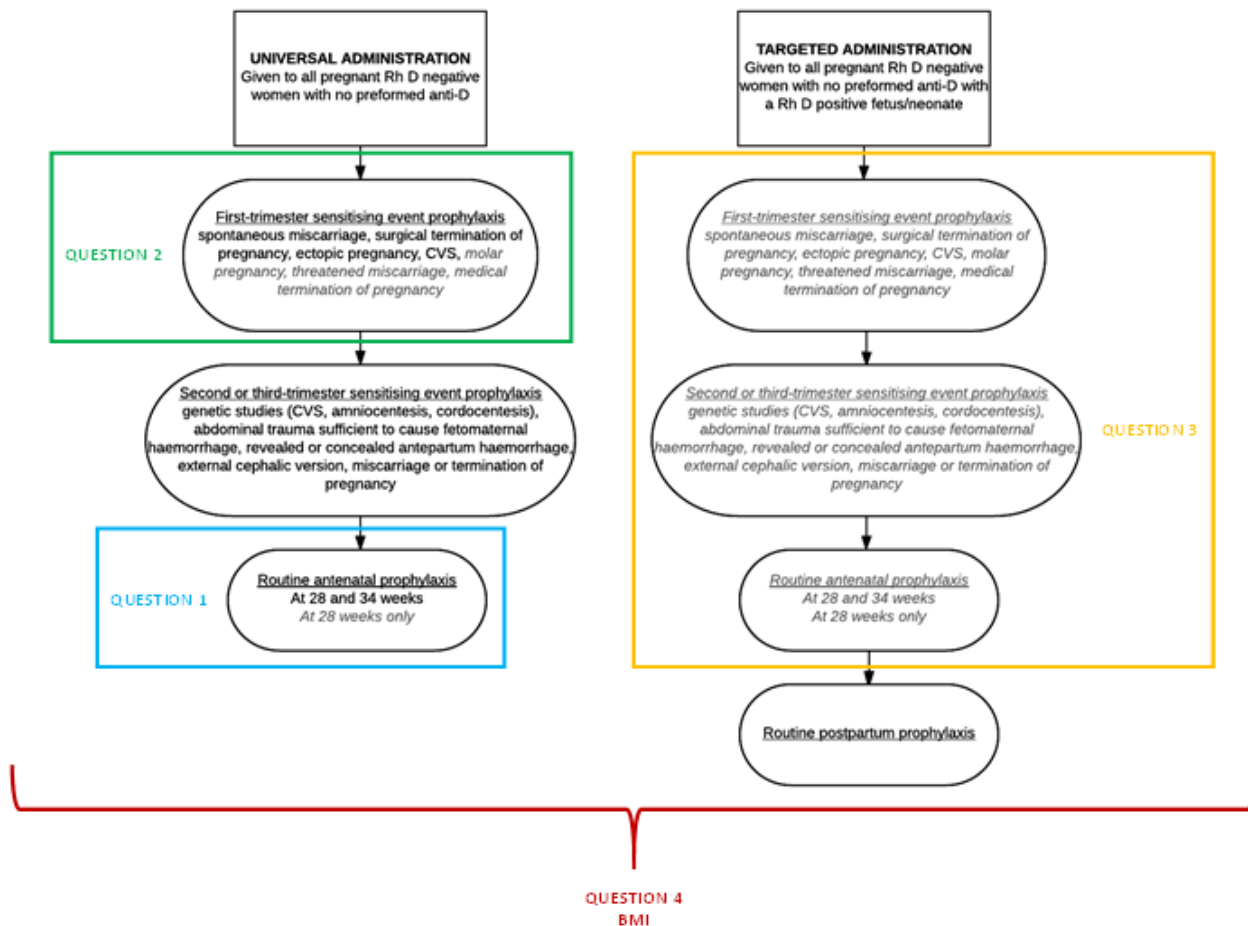
### Review and update of the *2003 Guidelines on the Prophylactic Use of Rh D Immunoglobulin (Anti-D) in Obstetrics*

#### Summary to date (January 2018)

- The National Blood Authority (NBA) released the [\*Guidelines on the Prophylactic Use of Rh D Immunoglobulin \(Anti-D\) in Obstetrics\*](#) in 2003, with the aim of providing clinical guidance on antenatal prophylaxis. These guidelines also addressed supply constraints at the time of publication by including a staged implementation process for a full antenatal prophylaxis program in Australia.
- The NBA met with the Royal Australian and New Zealand College of Obstetricians and Gynaecologists (RANZCOG) in October 2016 to discuss options to update Australia's guidance on the use of Rh D immunoglobulin. The NBA and RANZCOG agreed that a new evidence-based guideline should be developed through a collaborative partnership between the NBA, RANZCOG and other relevant stakeholders.
- The development of the guidance is being overseen by a multi-disciplinary Expert Reference Group (ERG) with expertise from a range of clinical settings to ensure they reflect current evidence and best clinical practice.
- Expertise on the ERG includes:
  - Obstetricians and Maternal fetal medicine experts
  - Neonatology
  - General Practitioners
  - Haematologists
  - Private pathology
  - Midwives
  - Australian Red Cross Blood Service
  - Consumers/patients
  - Systematic review and guideline development support
  - Government
- The ERG met in October 2017 to discuss the scope of the systematic review and develop the research questions.
- Based on the outcomes of the October ERG meeting, four main clinical questions (and two sub questions) were chosen for evidence review. The clinical questions and their relationship to current and possible changes in practice can be found on page 2.
- The NBA released a Request for Tender (RFT) for expertise in systematic review and guideline development processes for the review and update of the Guidelines on 23 October 2017. The RFT closed on 17 November 2017 and an assessment of tenders is currently underway. The NBA expects contracts to be executed with the successful tenderer in February 2018.



The clinical questions and their relationship to current and possible changes in practice



Note: Text shown in black denotes current practice as outlined in the 2003 Guidelines and advice released by the then-Chair of the NBA's Advisory Board, Professor Richard Smallwood on 10 September 2004. Text shown in grey and *italicised* denotes possible changes to current practice that will be examined in the evidence reviews.

Abbreviations: CVS, chorionic villus sampling.