

Mayo Clinic's Medical Edge

Rhesus Disease

1:00

Log

Audio

Intro with music	GIVING YOU THE EDGE ON HEALTHY LIVING, HERE'S MAYO CLINIC'S MEDICAL EDGE.
	EXPECTANT MOTHERS ARE OFFERED LOTS OF PRENATAL TESTING. FOR MOST IT MEANS REASSURANCE THAT EVERYTHING IS OK. BUT EVEN WHEN A PROBLEM TURNS UP, SOME AMAZING ADVANCES HAVE ALLOWED FOR GOOD OUTCOMES.
Norman Davies, M.D. Track 1 (4:35)	"PERHAPS THE OUTSTANDING SUCCESS STORY HAS BEEN RHESUS DISEASE WHERE PREVIOUSLY BABIES WOULD DIE IN UTERO BECAUSE OF ANEMIA."
	MAYO CLINIC DR. NORMAN DAVIES SAYS THIS IS WHEN THE MOTHER

<p>(ree-sus)</p>	<p>AND BABY HAVE MISMATCHED R-H OR RHESUS LEVELS IN THEIR BLOOD. THE MOM'S IMMUNE SYSTEM GUARDS AGAINST THIS "FOREIGN" SUBSTANCE BY ATTACKING THE RED BLOOD CELLS. TO TREAT IT, THE BABY IS GIVEN TRANSFUSIONS OF RED BLOOD CELLS WHILE STILL IN THE WOMB.</p>
<p>Dr. Davies. Track 2 (:55)</p>	<p>"BABIES ARE PRETTY SMALL, THEY DON'T NEED TOO MUCH IN THE WAY OF BLOOD, AND WE KNOW WHEN WE HAVE TO REPEAT THE TRANSFUSION."</p>
	<p>USUALLY EVERY COUPLE WEEKS OR SO. ONCE BORN, DR. DAVIES SAYS THE BABY IS NO LONGER AT RISK.</p>
	<p>FOR MORE INFORMATION, TALK TO YOUR DOCTOR OR VISIT MAYOCLINIC.ORG. I'M VIVIEN WILLIAMS.</p>

