

**WIRhE – LATAM****VIRTUAL KICK OFF MEETING****December 10, 2020 / 1 pm -4 pm Brasilia time**

## Attendees:

## FROM WIRHE

Steven Spitalnik, USA President  
Gerry H Visser, NL  
Gian Carlo Di Renzo, Italy  
Daniela Hermelin, USA  
Celina Montemayor, Mexico

## FROM LATAM

Eduardo Fonseca, Brazil  
Jesus Andres Benavides, Colombia  
Josè Antonio B. Ayala Méndez, Mexico  
Peter Chedraui, Ecuador  
Liliana Voto, Argentina

## Absent:

Isabel Lloyd, Panama  
Ràul Veràstegui, Bolivia  
Juan Pedro Matzumara Kasano, Perú  
Miguel Ruoti Cosp, Paraguay  
Jose Poblete Lizana, Chile

Prof Steven Spitalnik opened the session with a brief introduction followed by Celina Montemayor who presented the WIRhE consortium and its activities. Prof Gerry Visser intervened presenting briefly the FIGO guidelines just released. Afterwards, Prof Eduardo Fonseca chaired the session inviting all the participants from Latin America to briefly present (some with , some without slides) the status of Rh eradication in their country focusing mainly on:

1- percentage of Rh negative women in reproductive age in the country, if data available. In this respect it was clear that data are scanty, fragmented, old and this aspect needs to be fully evaluated.  
2- provision of Rh immunoprophylaxis, when and how. In this respect most of the countries have attitudes and guidelines to perform the immunoprophylaxis after birth, although not always available, but less than 30% apply during pregnancy or in other situations.

3- problems encountered so far, awareness, provision on immunoglobulins, costs, attitude of doctors and midwives. In this respect Mexico has recently carried out a survey to investigate the attitude and knowledge of a selected group of obgyn, reporting a good response and knowledge but rising problems in the provision, costs and application to the whole obstetric population.

In particular, the questionnaire prepared by the FEMECOG secretary José Antonio B. Ayala Méndez addressed to the Presidents of regional districts and councils on the Rh eradication problem in Mexico was discussed. The same questionnaire, slightly modified, will be addressed to all members of the Mexican Federation (over 5000). The other participants showed great interest in this initiative: it was foreseen that Dr Ayala will send to all LATAM members participating to the call the questionnaire for possible distribution to members of the other LATAM Societies.

Then a general discussion followed with main objectives:

- a) WIRhE web available to all the Latin America professionals and women, with Spanish/Portuguese sections and a LATAM new section
- b) Implementation strategies where the WIRhE consortium help.

Daniela Hermelin intervened expressing her availability through twitter to implement awareness about the problems of Rh disease both among professionals and among women in the various countries of Latin America.

Gian Carlo Di Renzo summarized the actions which will be taken in the forthcoming months to implement the WIRhE concept in Central-South America.

WIRhE President Steven Spitalnik manifested his willingness to overview and support the various requests aimed to spread Rh immunoprophylaxis in Central and South America as much as possible.