

The problems with D genotyping

Joint UK NEQAS BTLP / BBTS SIG

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Objectives

- Empower you to make informed decisions relating to *RHD* genotyping
- Know the purpose of each test
- Interaction
 - Please find your coloured paper
- Have a giggle!
- Explain *RHD* genotyping
 - Basics
 - Barriers
 - “standard *RH* genotype”
 - “Weak D”

**What is that on
Shane's face?**

**He's growing it for
Movember**

It's a lifestyle choice

Homage for Freddie Mercury

**It's the hair he lost from
his forehead**



**What are the
problems with D
genotyping?**



**It's too
confusing**

**I have to refer
samples**

**Nothing, it's
perfect**

**It can give you
the wrong answer**

**What are the
problems with D
genotyping?**



**It can give you
the wrong answer**

Blood Grouping by Molecular Genetics

No suitable red cell sample

More / better information

Transfused patients

No serology reagent available

DAT positive

Identify specific variants

Fetal typing

Zygoty testing

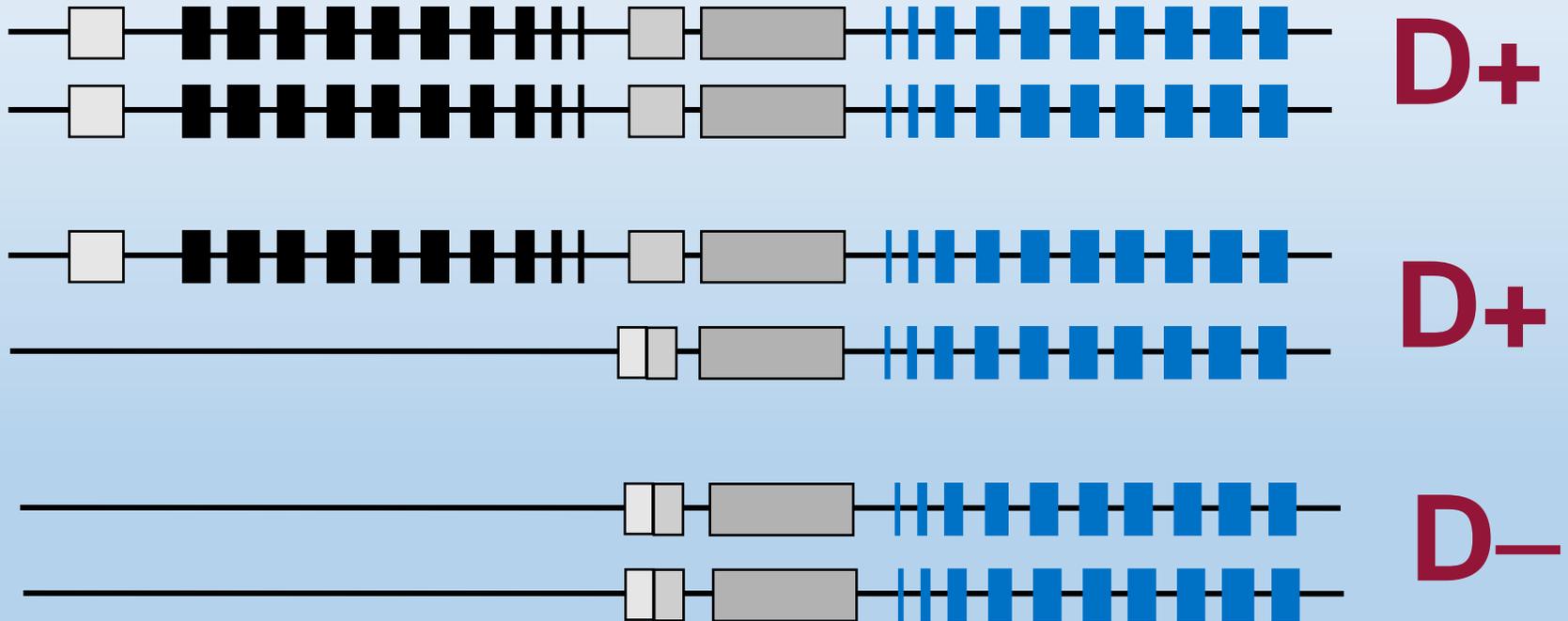
More efficient / cost effective

[https://ashpublications.org/bloodadvances/article/4/15/3495/461690/
Development-and-validation-of-a-universal-blood ...donor genotyping platform](https://ashpublications.org/bloodadvances/article/4/15/3495/461690/Development-and-validation-of-a-universal-blood-donor-genotyping-platform)

RHD Basics

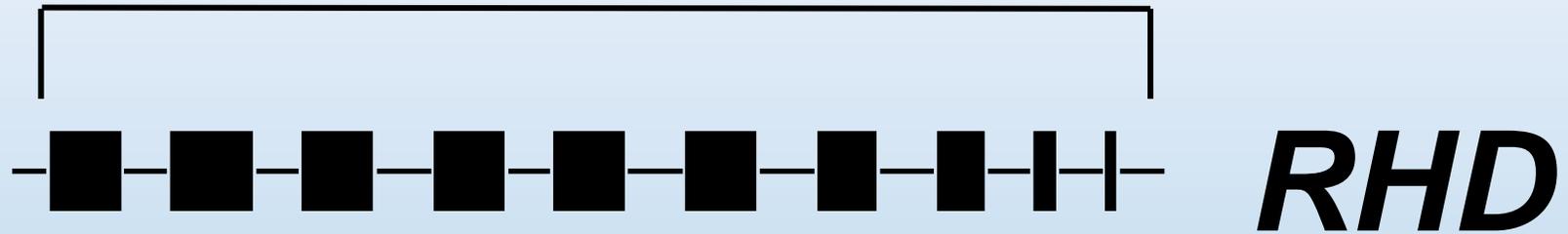
RHD

RHCE



RHD Basics

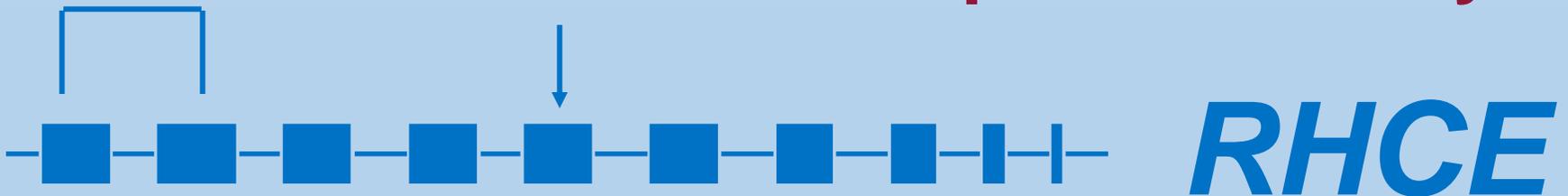
D



C/c

E/e

94%
sequence identity



RHD Basics

RHD AGAAGTGGTTTCAGGATCAGCAAAGCAGGGAGGATGTTACAGGGTTGCCTTGTTCCCAGC

RHCE AGAGGTGGTTTCAGGATCAGCAAAGCAGGGAGGATGTTACAGGGTTGCCTTGTTCCCAGC

***RHD* Barriers**

**Only 18% of
D- Black people
are homozygous
for a deletion of *RHD***

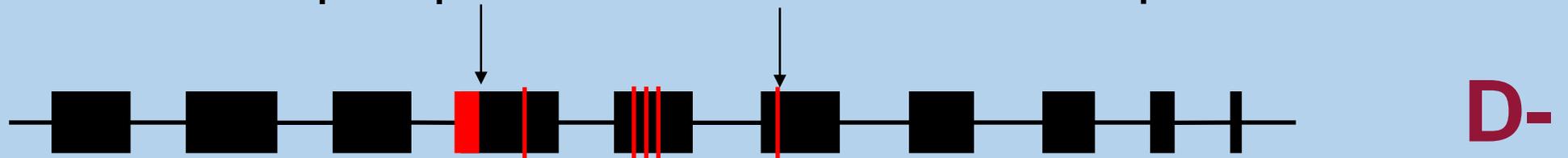
RHD Barriers

15% have *RHD-CE-D^s*



66% have *RHD Ψ*

37 bp duplication nonsense \rightarrow stop



RHD Barriers

Must return result of D- for
RHD-CE-D^s and *RHD*ψ*

Standard *RH* Genotype

- **Exon 4**
 - If $RHD^* \Psi$ is present \rightarrow detection of PCR product 37bp bigger = D-
- **Exon 7**
 - If $RHD^*D-CE-D^S$ only is present \rightarrow no amplification of Exon 4 and 7 = D-



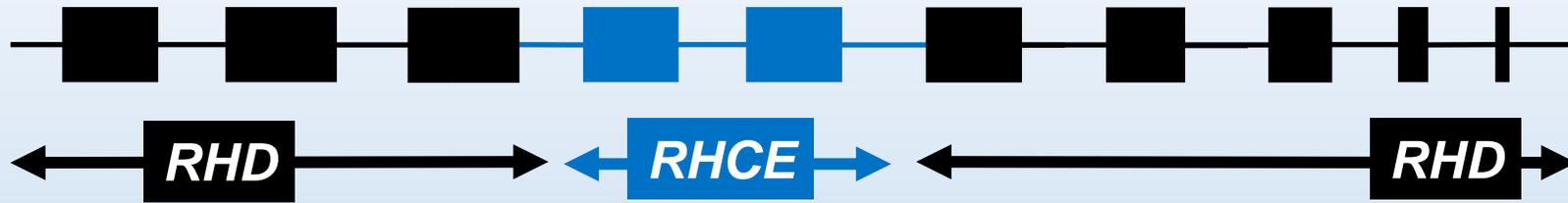
RHD Barriers

D+ 85%

D- 15%

<1% variant

RHD Barriers



DVI

- can produce anti-D as a patient
- can immunize D- recipients
- lack exons 4 and 5 of *RHD*

Must return result of D- for DVI (PATIENT)

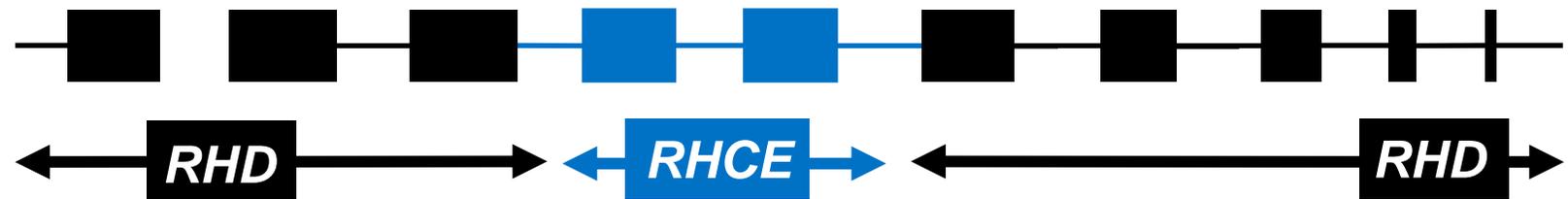
What results
would standard
RH genotype
give for DVI?

Exon 4+ 7+

Exon 4- 7-

Exon 4+ 7-

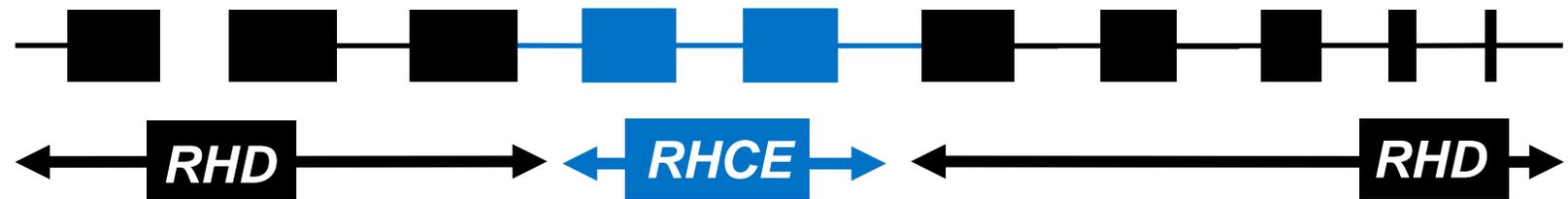
Exon 4- 7+



What results
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RH genotype
give for DVI?



Exon 4- 7+

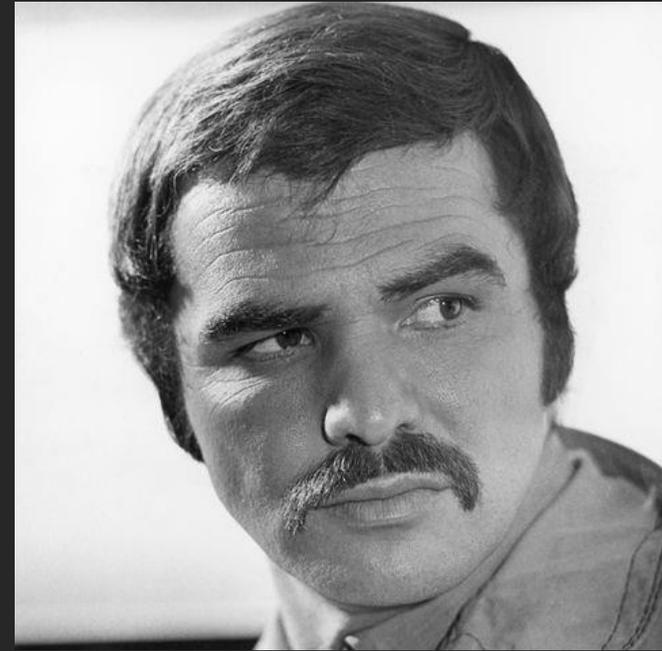
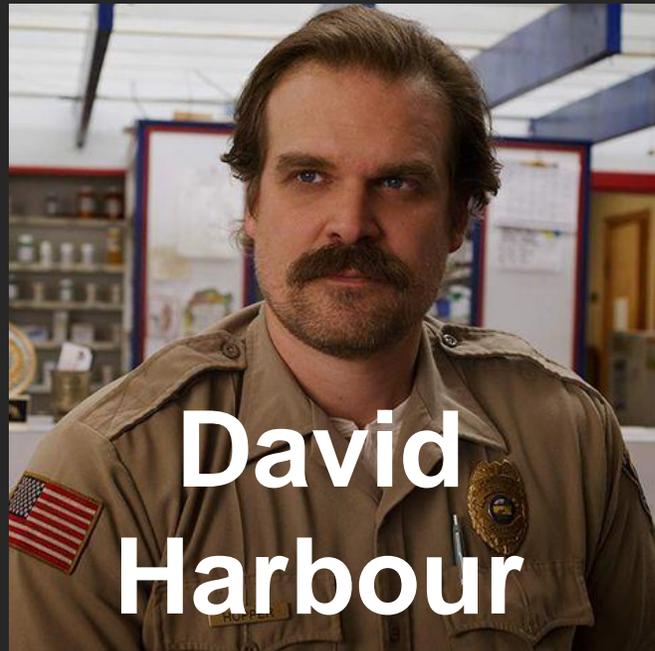


Standard *RH* Genotype

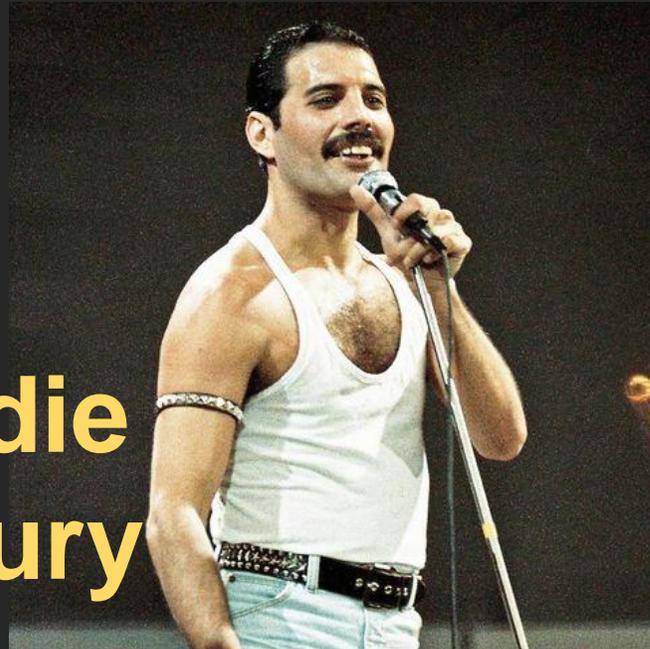
- Common variants in UK population include:
 - *RHD* Ψ , D-
 - *RHD-CE-D^S*, D-
 - *RHDVI*, D+^{var}, treat as D-

Standard *RH* genotype is accurate

Shane's
moustache
looks most
like?



Freddie
Mercury



Standard *RH* Genotype

- Common variants in UK population include:
 - *RHD* Ψ , D-
 - *RHD-CE-D^S*, D-
 - *RHDVI*, D+^{var}, treat as D-

Standard *RH* genotype is accurate

...for most patients

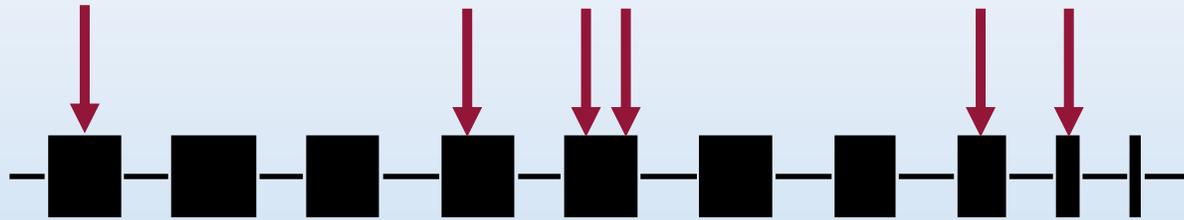
...for most patients

D+ 85%

D- 15%

<1% variant

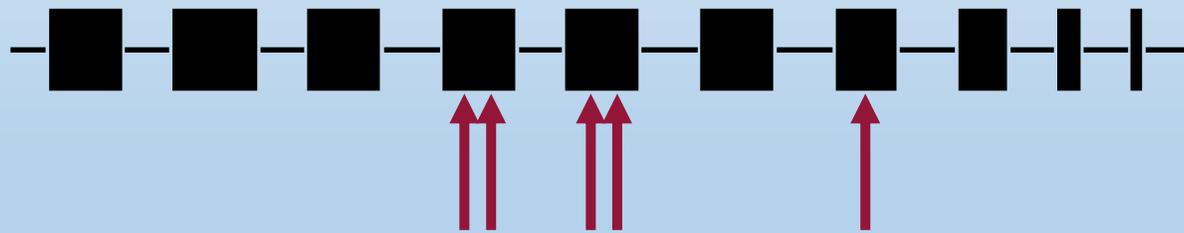
Standard *RH* Genotype



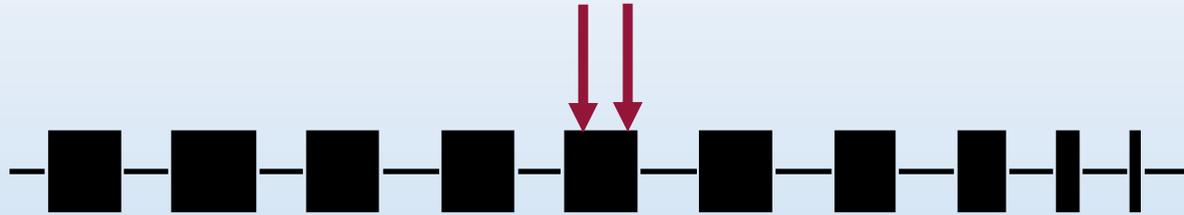
Hundreds of *RHD* variants

Produce anti-D

e.g. DV



Standard *RH* Genotype



Hundreds of *RHD* variants

Produce anti-D

e.g. DV

What results
would standard
RH genotype
give for DV?



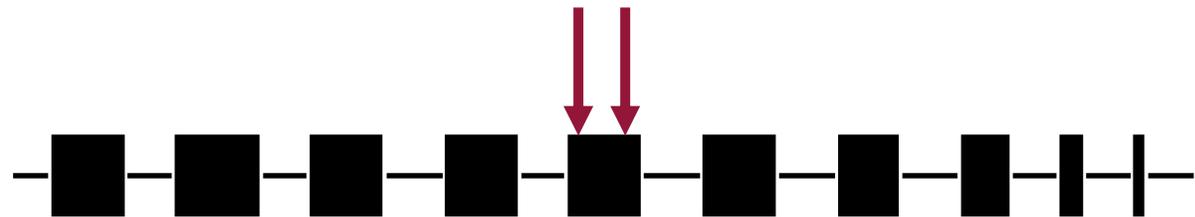
Exon 4+ 7+

Exon 4- 7-

Exon 4+ 7-

Exon 4- 7+

DV

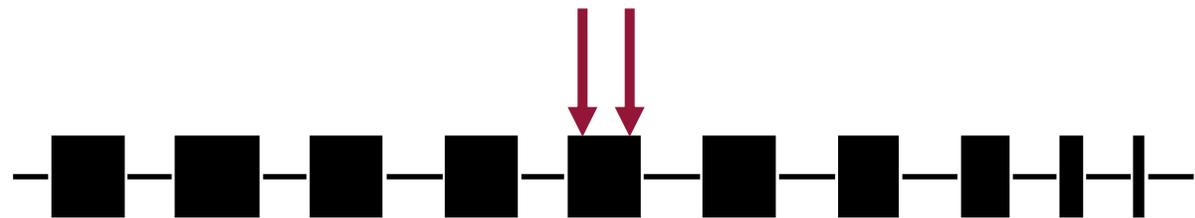


Exon 4+ 7+

What results
would standard
RH genotype
give for DV?



DV



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problems with D
genotyping?**



**It's too
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Standard *RH* Genotype

- Common variants in UK population include:
 - *RHD* Ψ , D-
 - *RHD-CE-D^S*, D-
 - *RHDVI*, D+^{var}, treat as D-

Standard *RH* genotype is accurate

... for most patients

NOT if you suspect a *RHD* variant e.g. anti-D, D+^{var}

Weak D

Express all epitopes of D,
can safely be treated as D+

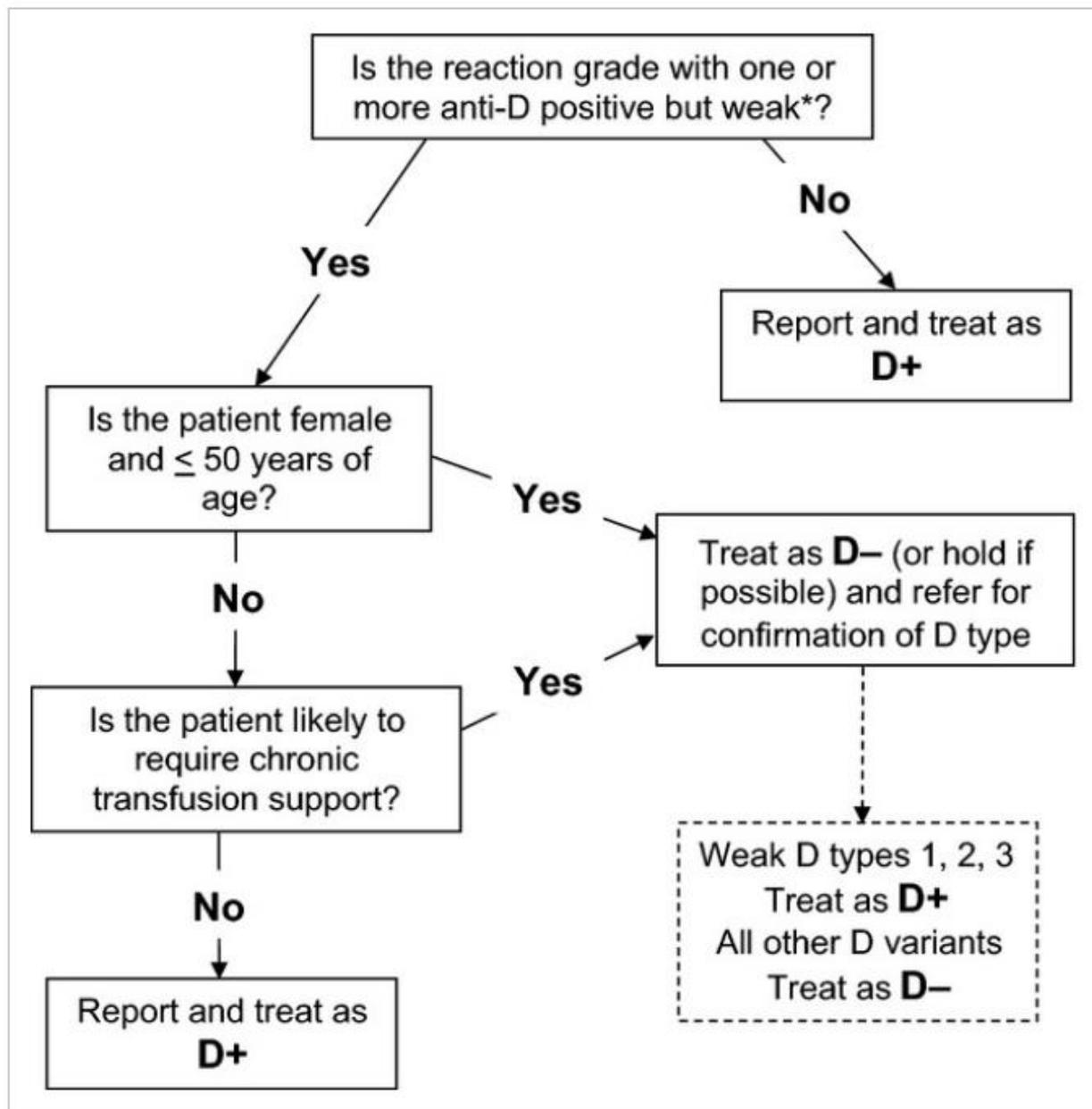


Figure 3

[Open in figure viewer](#) | [PowerPoint](#)

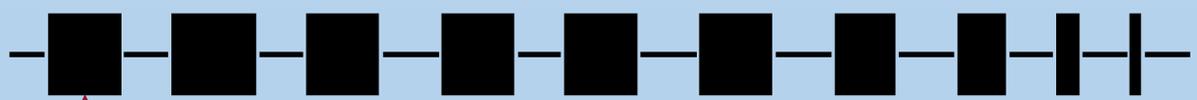
Reporting of D typing anomalies and selection of red cells. Adapted from: (Milkins *et al*, 2013)

Weak D

Weak D Type 1



Weak D Type 2



Weak D Type 3

Weak D

If SNP responsible for Weak D Type 1, 2 or 3 is present
→ e.g. Weak D Type 1

**What results
would Weak D
genotype give for
Weak D Type 1?**



Weak D Type 2

**Weak D Type 1,
2, 3 negative**

Weak D Type 1

What results
would Weak D
genotype give for
Weak D Type 1?



Weak D Type 1

Would you treat this patient as
D+ or D-?

What results
would Weak D
genotype give for
DV?

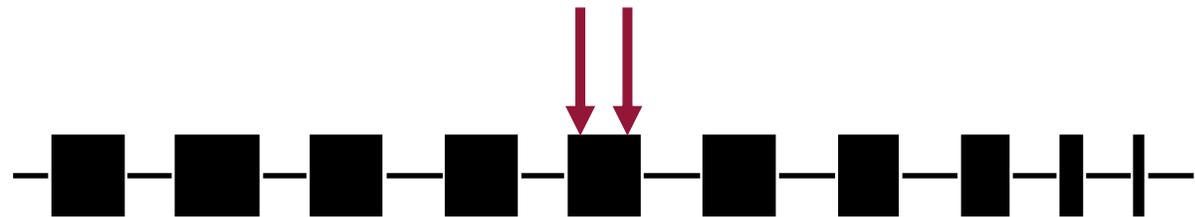


Weak D Type 2

Weak D Type 1,
2, 3 negative

Weak D Type 1

DV



**What results
would Weak D
genotype give for
DV?**

**Weak D Type 1,
2, 3 negative**



**Would you treat this patient as
D+ or D-?**

The problems with D Genotyping

No evidence of *RH* variant → Standard *RH* genotype

Evidence of *RH* variant → Weak D genotype

Unsure → explanation on referral form, call

Red Cell Genotype tests and indications

Name	General scope / indications	Outline of <i>RH</i> targets	Other blood groups	Sample / Lab	document	TrT
Standard Genotype	Common blood group antigens with no evidence / suspicion of variants	Presence or absence of <i>RHD</i> . SNP for C, c, E, e	K/k, Fy ^{a/b} , Jk ^{a/b} , M/N, S/s, U-, U+ ^{var}	3ml EDTA / MD	FRM4738 INF1341	10 days (48 hrs for Urgent)
BEADchip	Common and extended blood group antigens with no evidence / suspicion of variants	Presence or absence of <i>RHD</i> . SNP for C, c, E. Some e variant alleles including V, VS	K/k, Kp ^{a/b} , Js ^{a/b} , Fy ^{a/b} , Fy ^X , Jk ^{a/b} , M/N, S/s, U-, U+ ^{var} , Lu ^{a/b} , Di ^{a/b} , Co ^{a/b} , Do ^{a/b} , LW ^{a/b} , Sc	3ml EDTA / MD	FRM4738 INF1341	10 days
HGP	Common blood group antigens and more common <i>RHD</i> , <i>RHCE</i> and <i>GYPB</i> variants. Useful for Tx dependent Black patients and suspicion of anti-e when e+	Detection of <i>D</i> , <i>C</i> and <i>e</i> variant alleles more common in Blacks and likely to appear D+, C+ or e+ on routine phenotype. Includes V / VS and hr ^S / hr ^B	K/k, Kp ^{a/b} , Js ^{a/b} , Do ^{a/b} , Fy ^{a/b} , Jk ^{a/b} , M/N, S/s, U-, U+ ^{var}	3ml EDTA / MD	FRM1597	12 weeks
Weak D 1,2	In the presence of an aberrant D phenotype. To guide treatment as D+ or D-	Presence or absence of <i>RHD</i> * <i>Weak D Type 1</i> and <i>2</i> alleles <u>only</u>	N/A	3ml EDTA / RCR	via RCI only	6 weeks
RCI genotype	Common blood group antigens with no evidence / suspicion of variants At digression of RCI / urgent cases.	<i>RHD</i> NOT reported. SNP for C, c, E, e	K/k, Fy ^{a/b} , Jk ^{a/b} , M/N, S/s, U-, U+ ^{var} Do ^{a/b}	3ml EDTA / RCI	1A	3 hours

Thank You

