



Fondazione Carlo Denegri, Torino

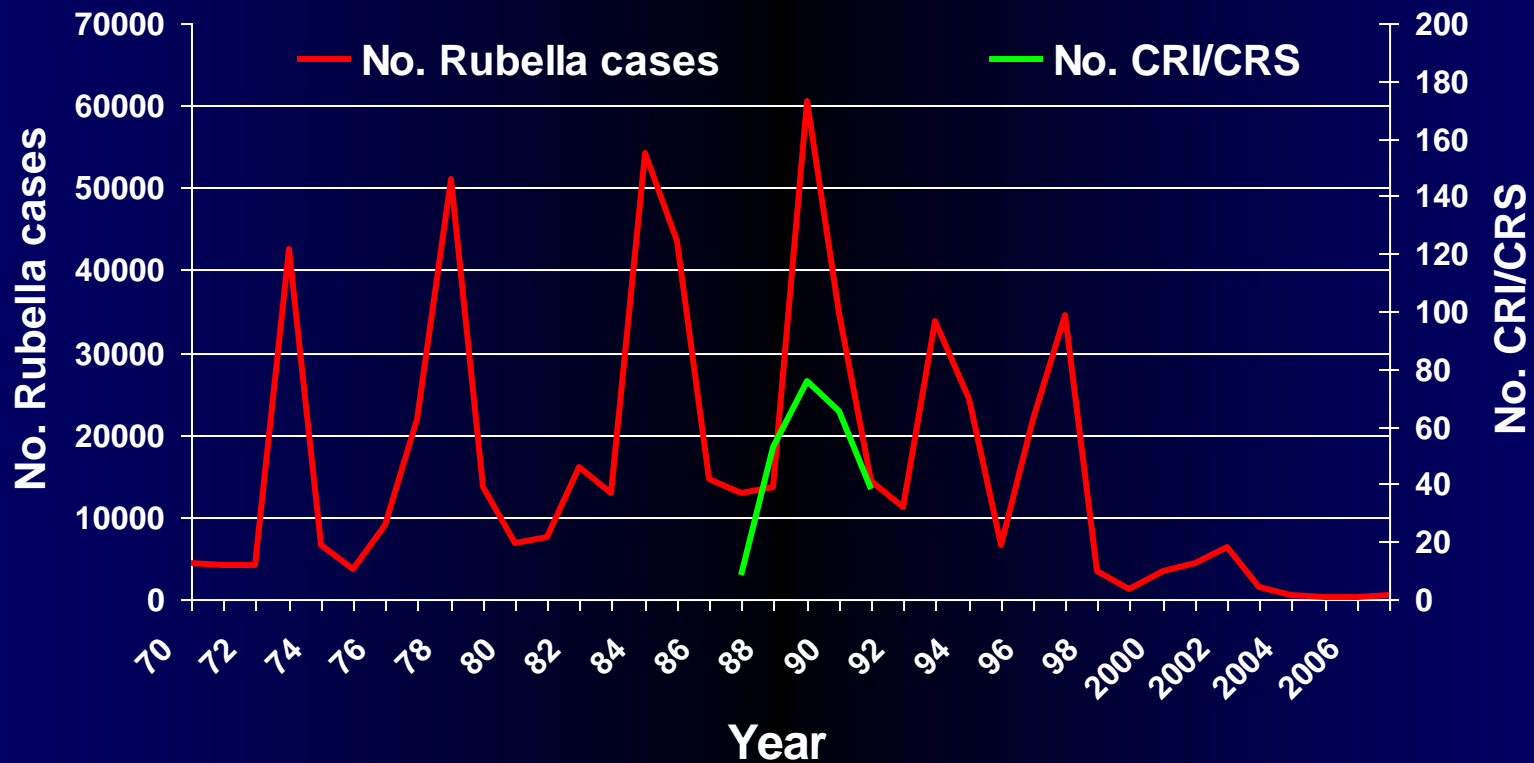
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Rubella infection in pregnancy

Maria Grazia Revello

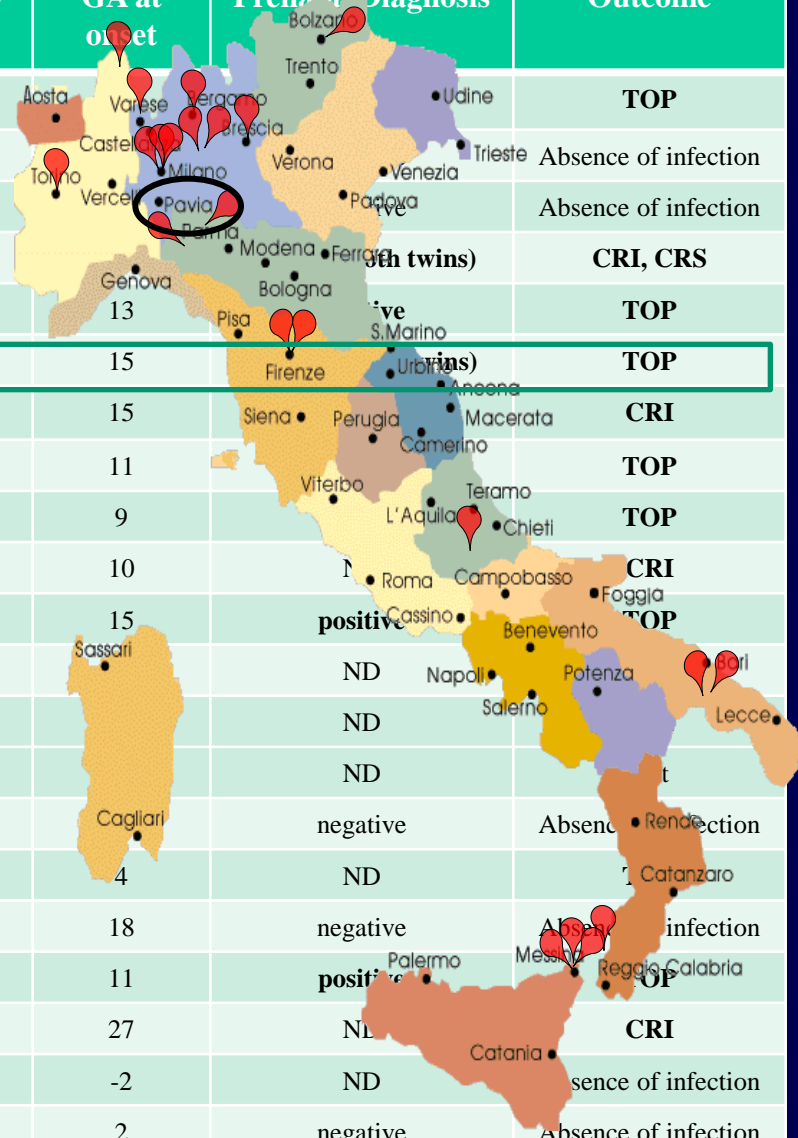
Rubella in Italy, 1970-2007



Source: Istituto Superiore di Sanità

2008 Rubella outbreak. Characteristics of 22 pregnant women referred to San Matteo Hospital (Pavia)

Pt#	Age in years	Place of origin	Parity	GA at onset	Prenatal Diagnosis	Outcome
1	25	Montemesola,TA	na			TOP
2	37	Torino	na			Absence of infection
3	18	Bolzano	na			Absence of infection
4	23	Tropea, VV	1			CRI, CRS
5	36	Firenze	0	13		TOP
6	33	Milano	0	15		TOP
7	36	Salina, ME	2	15		CRI
8	36	Verbania	0	11		TOP
9	33	Taranto	na	9		TOP
10	36	Firenze	na	10		CRI
11	39	Milano	na	15	positive	TOP
12	33	Milano	na		ND	
13	35	Cologno, MI	2		ND	
14	21	Piacenza	na		ND	
15	32	Isernia	na		negative	Absence of infection
16	26	Varese	0	4	ND	
17	35	Messina	1	18	negative	Absence of infection
18	35	Monza	na	11	positive	TOP
19	na	Messina	na	27	ND	CRI
20	28	Varzi, PV	na	-2	ND	Absence of infection
21	20	Brescia	na	2	negative	Absence of infection
22	na	Bergamo	na	4	ND	CRS



6 newborns with CRI/CRS

5 fetuses with CRI (TOP)

4 TOP

6 uninfected newborns

GA, gestational age; na, not available; CRI, Congenital Rubella Infection; CRS, Congenital Rubella Syndrome; nd, not done

Major variables affecting reliability of prenatal diagnosis of CRI

- Time of gestation at procedure
- Time interval between maternal infection and PD
- Clinical sample
- Diagnostic techniques

2008 Rubella outbreaks. Prenatal diagnosis results in 12 pregnant women

Pt #	Week of gestation at		Samples	RV Prenatal diagnosis		Outcome
	Onset	Prenatal diagnosis		Nested PCR RT-PCR	IgM	
1	13	20	AF	Positive		TOP
2	16	16	AF	Negative		Absence of infection
3	14	20	AF Fetal blood	Negative Negative	Negative	Absence of infection
4*	14	20	AF twin A Fetal blood AF twin B	Positive Positive Positive	Positive	CRI, CRS
5	13	21	AF Fetal blood	Positive Positive	Positive	TOP
6*	15	21	AF twin A Fetal blood AF twin B	Positive Positive Positive	Negative	TOP
7	15	21	AF Fetal blood	Positive Positive	Positive	CRI
11	15	21	AF Fetal blood	Negative Positive	Positive	TOP
15	16	24	AF	Negative		Absence of infection
17	18	23	AF	Negative		Absence of infection
18	11	20	AF Fetal blood	Positive Positive	Negative	TOP
21	2	20	AF Fetal blood	Negative Negative	Negative	Absence of infection

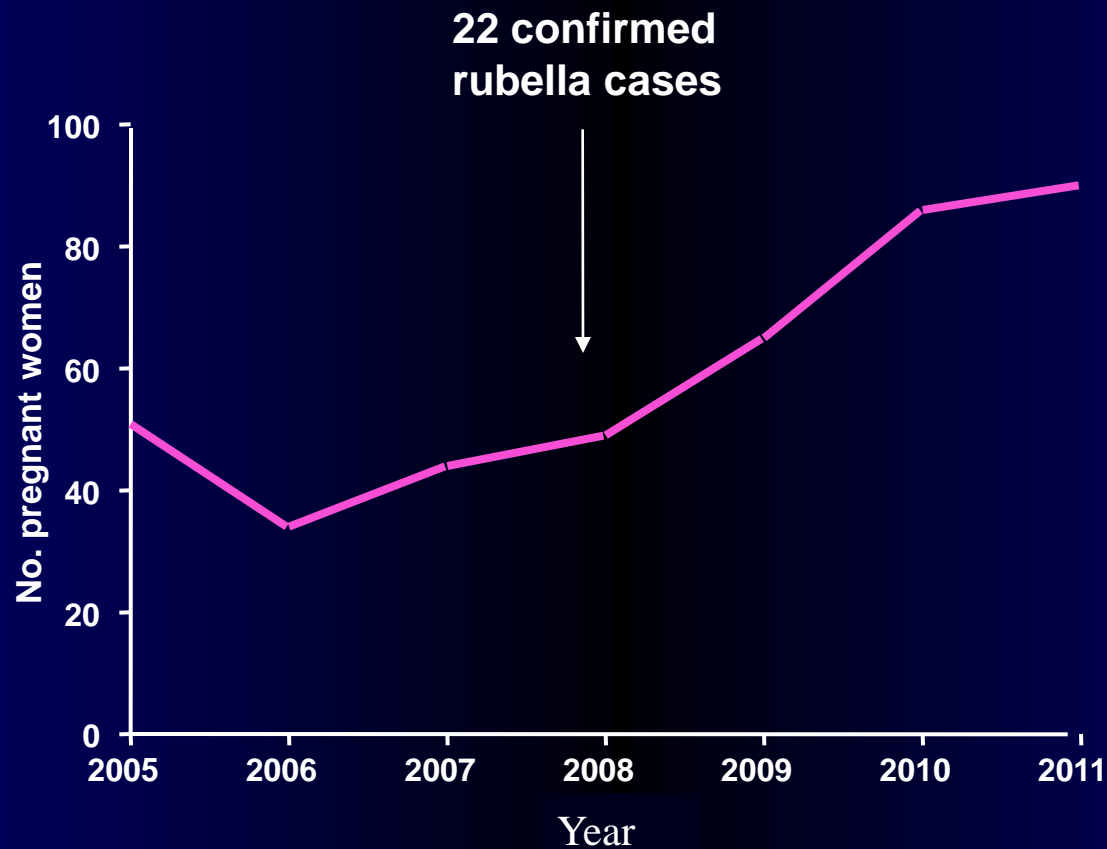
AF, amniotic fluid; ND, not done; TOP, termination of pregnancy; CRI, Congenital Rubella Infection

* Twin pregnancy

“To the author’s knowledge, only 4-5 laboratories worldwide have experience of PD of congenital rubella and it is difficult for other laboratories to establish reliable procedures when few cases are referred”

Jennifer Best. Rubella. Semin Fetal Neonatal Med, 2007.

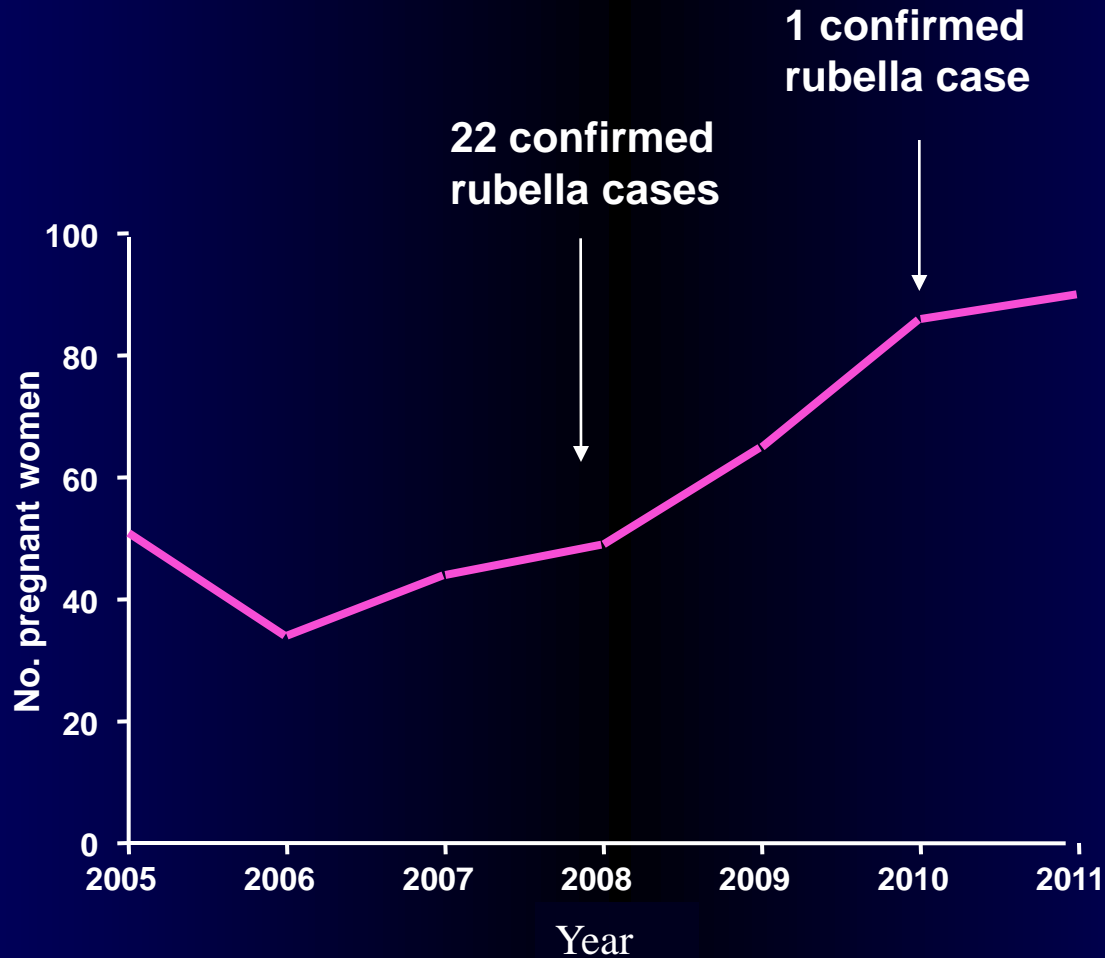
Pregnant women with suspected rubella referred to our Institution in Pavia (2005-2011)



Rubella never sleeps



Pregnant women with suspected rubella referred to our Institution in Pavia (2005-2011)

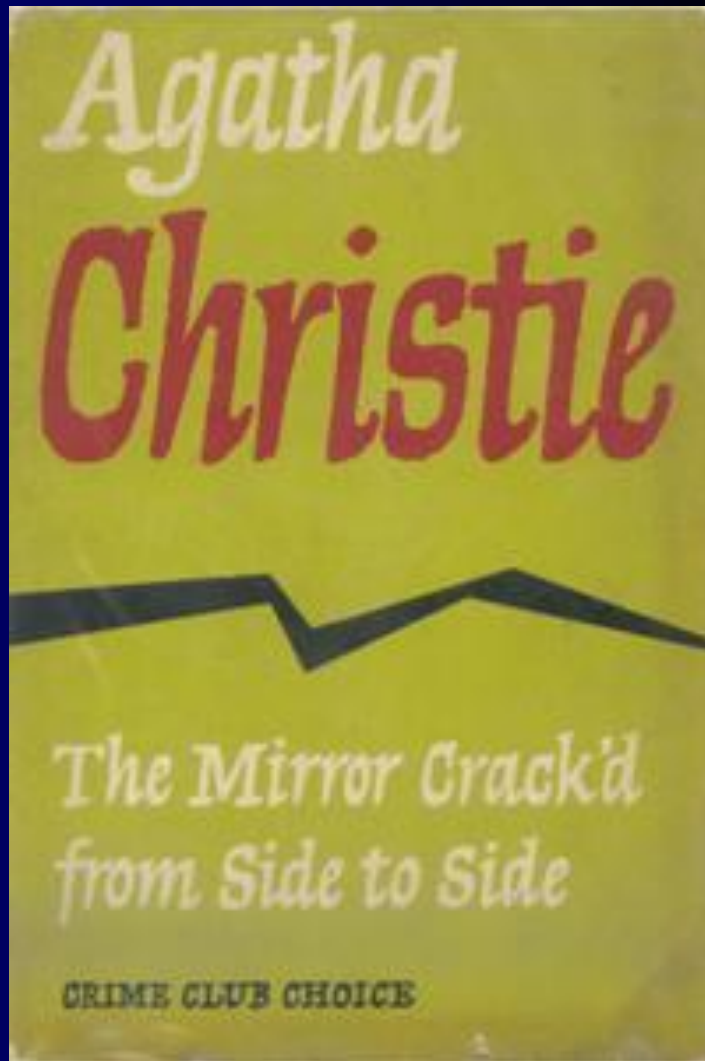


Diagnosis

- Reference centers
- Storage of RV IgM-positive sera

Prevention

- Preconceptional Ab testing
- Post -partum vaccination



Main character: an actress named Marina Gregg

Marina had always desperately wanted children but had found it difficult to conceive. However, after adopting three children, she had finally become pregnant. But when her baby was born it was found to be mentally handicapped and was abandoned to a lifetime of institutions.

Years later Marina was approached by a female fan for an autograph at a garden party. The woman revealed that she had sneaked out of quarantine while sick with German measles in order to meet Marina who, at the time, was pregnant. Marina murdered her for revenge

Christie used the real-life tragedy of American actress Gene Tierney as the basis of her plot.

Published in 1962

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