Rubella and Fourth Disease

The third and fourth classic exanthems: rubella matters because of pregnancy

3rd

Third disease: rubella

togavirus · faint macular rash spreading from head to trunk · low-grade fever · retroauricular, occipital and posterior cervical nodes

CRS

Congenital rubella

deafness, heart disease (patent ductus) and cataracts · infection in the first trimester

4th

Fourth disease: Dukes-Filatov

disputed entity: mild scarlet fever or atypical rubella? · not considered a real entity today

Vax

Prevention

MMR is a live attenuated vaccine: contraindicated in pregnancy, given after delivery · immunity is screened before or early in pregnancy

Retroauricular nodes
Rubella

First trimester
Congenital rubella

Live vaccine
Never during pregnancy

Do not confuse the retroauricular nodes of rubella with the generalized nodes of mononucleosis