



Government House
CANBERRA ACT 2600

19 April 2024

Honorary Appointment - General Division - July 2024

The Governor-General is pleased to announce the following appointment in the
Order of Australia:

HONORARY COMPANION (AC) IN THE GENERAL DIVISION

Dr John Grant GORMAN, California, United States of America

For eminent service to medicine in co-discovering and pioneering a treatment for Rhesus disease
for worldwide benefit to humanity.

By Her Excellency's command

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'G. Martin'.

Gerard Martin PSM

Official Secretary to the Governor-General

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IN THE GENERAL DIVISION OF THE ORDER OF AUSTRALIA**

Dr John Grant GORMAN, California, United States of America

For eminent service to medicine in co-discovering and pioneering a treatment for Rhesus disease for worldwide benefit to humanity.

Dr John Gorman co-discovered and pioneered the treatment of Rhesus disease. Rhesus disease is caused by blood incompatibility between mother and unborn child and once caused about 1 in 10 neonatal deaths.

Dr Gorman and his colleagues were the inventors of the therapeutic use of Rh immune globulin to prevent Rhesus disease. This pioneering discovery, around 60 years ago, and remarkable outcome of the Anti-D immunoglobulin, has saved millions of lives and virtually eliminated Rhesus disease in the developed world.

In 1969, Australia became the first country in the world to provide Anti-D immunoglobulin - free of charge - to every pregnant woman in need, thanks to the work of Dr Gorman.

Born and raised in Australia, Dr Gorman studied medicine at the University of Melbourne. He then became Professor of Pathology and Director of the Blood Bank at Columbia Presbyterian Hospital in New York, where, with his colleagues, he made these remarkable discoveries, which were turned into a simple treatment revolutionising clinical medical practice and preventing deaths in newborns.

The contribution of Dr Gorman's medical research and its clinical application, make him worthy of recognition for his eminent service to Australia and humanity as a Companion of the Order of Australia.