Ronald Finn was a clinician and academic born in Liverpool.

His research led to the development of a vaccine for Rh-negative mothers to protect their unborn babies at risk of developing Rh haemolytic disease; a discovery which has saved countless lives.

He began to research on the interaction of the ABO blood groups and Rh factors in the Liverpool area in 1958. This led to the discovery that fetal red blood cells entered the mother's bloodstream usually at delivery and that, when the fetus and mother were ABO incompatible, the mother's immune system destroyed the cells before she could become sensitised to Rh antigen.

In 1960 he suggested that if an Rh-negative mother were given anti-Rh antibody soon enough, any fetal red blood cells in her circulation would be inactivated before her immune system could become sensitised to Rh antigen. He was able to prove this in a clinical trial along with Cyril Clarke among high-risk Rh-negative women in 1964.

Finn studied medicine at Liverpool University and trained at Sefton General Hospital in 1966 and Liverpool Royal Infirmary from 1978 where he was director of the renal unit. He retired from clinical work in 1997 and was appointed visiting professor in immunology at the University of Liverpool in 2000.

The Finn Papers held in the University Archive contain materials collected and written by Finn, mainly cuttings and offprints but some notes and draft from studies and also some ephemeral items. The materials are divided into Finn's areas of interest and study.

Finn had an interest in allergies and the impact of the environment on health. He was a founding member of what is now the British Society for Allergy, Environmental, and Nutritional Medicine. He is quoted in several newspaper clippings in the archive for example in an article 'Food Allergies and You' in *Women’s Own*, Dec 6 1980 and 'It must be something I ate' in *Observer Living*, 8 Jun 1980 (ref D923/6/11). There are some pamphlets and materials collected by Finn from various seminars and groups that he attended such as the one opposite (ref D923/6/12).

There are also some photographs and ephemera in the archives from Finn’s time as a physician with the Royal Southern Hospital (closed in 1979) including some photographs, a badge and a centenary booklet (ref D923/3/1).