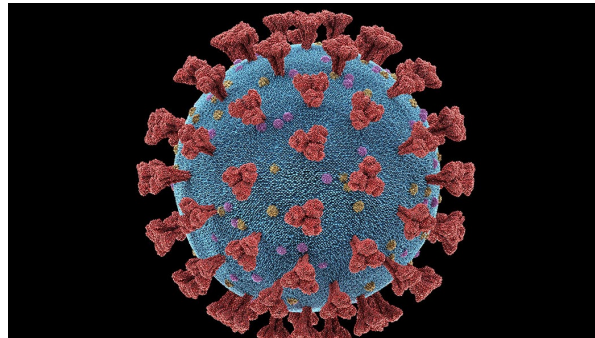
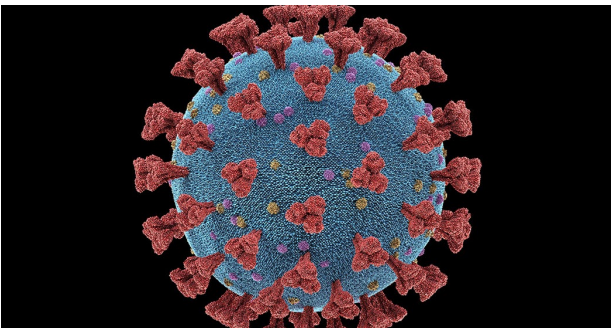


Title: Infection Prevention and Control in Maternity Settings

Mrs AC Vorndran- ICAN Exec manager



Preventing and controlling transmission of COVID 19 infection



Outline

- Overview of infection prevention and control (IPC)
- Significance of IPC for COVID-19 in Maternity Units
- Requirements for IPC in the context of COVID-19 in Ante Natal, Labour Ward and Post Natal



Introduction

- Globally, most cases of COVID-19 have evidence of human-to-human transmission through droplet and contact
- To date no study has shown coronavirus in amniotic fluid or cord blood.
- At present, there are no recorded cases of vaginal secretions and breast milk being tested positive for COVID-19.
- However, since SARS-CoV-2 has been detected in stools, this might pose a risk to the neonate during birth where there is physical proximity to perianal region
- Proper IPC practices can reduce transmission of the virus to ensure the health and well-being of the mothers and neonates

IPC Considerations

- Hospitals must have a designated COVID-19 room where suspected, probable or confirmed COVID-19 patients are cared for, including a fully equipped labour and delivery room
- Healthcare workers must assess their risk of exposure to effectively select the appropriate PPE
- Perform hand hygiene according to the WHO “5 Moments”

CARE OF COVID 19 POSITIVE SYMPTOMATIC MOTHER





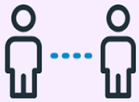
I'm pregnant. How can I protect myself against COVID-19?



Wash your hands
frequently



Avoid touching your
eyes, nose and mouth



Put space
between yourself
and others



Cough or sneeze into
your bent elbow or a
tissue

If you have fever, cough or difficulty breathing, seek care early.
Call beforehand, and follow medical advice.



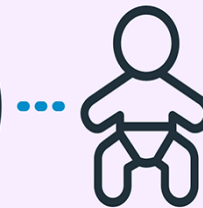
World Health
Organization

#COVID19 #CORONAVIRUS

Before, during and after childbirth, all women have the right to high quality care. This includes:



Antenatal and
intrapartum



Newborn



Postnatal



Mental health



World Health
Organization

#COVID19 #CORONAVIRUS

Ante Natal Care Setting

- Women might be at increased risk of contracting COVID-19 while attending ANC services.
- Always have a screen and triage area outside the clinic treatment area
- Limit number of ANC bookings to ensure physical distance of at least 1-2 m can be maintained
- Increase number of clinic days
- During screening= triage patient with possible respiratory symptoms or if know positive COVID-19, have dedicated isolate areas for these moms
- Health care workers should take necessary IPC precautions

- Give the woman a medical mask
- Women should be seen separately from others in an isolated room
- All care must continue in the same isolation area
- Consider Induction of labour or caesarean section for patients requiring mechanical ventilation



All women have the right to a safe and positive childbirth experience, whether or not they have a confirmed COVID-19 infection.



Respect and dignity



A companion of choice



Clear communication by maternity staff



Pain relief strategies



Mobility in labour where possible and birth position of choice



World Health Organization

#COVID19 #CORONAVIRUS

DELIVERY AREA (LABOUR WARD)

- Entry to these areas is restricted & Limit staff into room
- Personnel wear appropriate PPE to access entry
- Ensure all equipment are in room as would be during normal delivery
- Alert paediatrician for any assistance
- Continuous foetal monitoring to ensure safe delivery and timely intervention when foetal stress observe



During the 2nd Stage of Labour

- Wear appropriate PPEs- gown, apron, goggles/ face visor
- New-borns without complications kept with their mothers
- Mothers allowed to hold their new-born whilst wearing a mask
- Hand hygiene should be encouraged
- Proper cleaning and disinfecting of equipment after each delivery.
- Normal waste disposal, if mother is COVID19 positive, would be treated as normal infectious waste and labeled as such, stored and managed



Neonatal Isolation Wards

- **Before entry** Perform hand hygiene
- Appropriate PPE when handling baby or type of procedure
- Dedicated staff and limit entering into NICU
- Waste generated will be treated as normal or infectious waste depending on patient in NICU.
- Dedicated Patient care equipment kept in room if possible
- Keep doors closed at all times
- Doff PPE in a designated area outside the isolation areas and place it in infectious disposal bags for disposal or reprocessing if reusable.



Post Natal Care

- Psychological support to mother & encourage breastfeeding where possible
- Mother holding new born skin-to-skin & share a room with her baby must ensure Proper respiratory hygiene & hand hygiene.
- If mother too ill, express breastmilk in a cup can also be given to new born or alternative options like eg infant formula milk may be considered.
- Re-lactation when the mother is well.



Breastfeeding mothers and COVID-19

If you are sick with COVID-19 or think you might have it, follow these steps when breastfeeding:



Use a medical mask when near your child



Wash your hands thoroughly with soap or sanitizer before and after contact with your child



Routinely clean and disinfect any surfaces you touch

Breastfeeding mothers and COVID-19

If you are severely ill with COVID-19 or suffer from other complications that prevent you from caring for your infant or continuing direct breastfeeding, express milk to safely provide breastmilk to your infant.



Breastfeeding mothers and COVID-19

If you are too unwell to breastfeed or express breastmilk, use another approach, one that is acceptable and available to you.

Relactation

(restarting breastfeeding after a gap)

Wet nursing

(another woman breastfeeding or caring for your child)

Donor human milk

Should Infants Be Separated from Mothers with COVID-19?

FIRST DO NO HARM

SEPARATION
may not prevent
INFECTION.



SKIN TO SKIN CARE
supports newborns' physiology.



SEPARATION
stresses parents and babies.



SEPARATION
weakens immune protections.



SEPARATION
disrupts breastfeeding putting babies' health at risk.



SEPARATING the DYAD
doubles providers' workload, burdening systems.



BASED ON THE ARTICLE:

Should Infants Be Separated from Mothers with COVID-19?
First, Do No Harm

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SHARED DECISION-MAKING PROTECTS MOTHERS + INFANTS DURING COVID-19

KEEPING MOTHERS + INFANTS TOGETHER

Means balancing...

Risk of horizontal infection



Risks of separation and trauma



EVIDENCE

We encourage families and clinicians to remain diligent in learning **up-to-date evidence.**

PARTNERSHIP SHARED DECISION-MAKING

What is the best for this unique dyad?

SEEEK PARTICIPATION
HELP EXPLORE OPTIONS
ASSESS PREFERENCES
REACH A DECISION
EVALUATE THE DECISION



TRAUMA-INFORMED

Both parents and providers are confronting significant...

- **FEAR**
- **GRIEF**
- **UNCERTAINTY**

LONGITUDINAL DATA

We need to understand more about outcomes for mothers and infants exposed to COVID-19, with special attention to:

- **MENTAL HEALTH**
- **POSTPARTUM CARE DELIVERY**



NEW DATA EMERGE DAILY.
NANN AND NPA ENCOURAGE PERINATAL CARE PROVIDERS TO ENGAGE IN CANDID CONVERSATIONS WITH PREGNANT PARENTS PRIOR TO DELIVERY REGARDING RISKS, BENEFITS, LIMITATIONS, AND REALISTIC EXPECTATIONS.

Partnering for patient-centered care when it matters most.



nann.org

National Association of Neonatal Nurses



nationalperinatal.org

Keeping Your Baby Safe

during the COVID-19 pandemic

How to protect your little one from germs and viruses

Even though there are some things we don't know about COVID-19 yet, there are many more things that we do know. We know that there are proven protective measures that we can take to stay healthy.

Here's what you can do...

Wash Your Hands

- This is the single, most important thing you can do to stop the spread of viruses.
- Use soap.
- Wash for more than 20 seconds.
- Use alcohol-based sanitizers.



Limit Contact with Others

- Stay home when you can.
- Stay 6 feet apart when out.
- Wear a face mask when out.
- Change your clothes when you get home.
- Tell others what you're doing to stay safe.



Provide Protective Immunity

- Hold baby skin-to-skin.
- Give them your breast milk.
- Stay current with your family's immunizations.



Take Care of Yourself

- Stay connected with your family and friends.
- Sleep when you can.
- Drink more water and eat healthy foods.
- Seek mental health support.



Immunizations Vaccinations save lives. Protecting your baby from flu and pertussis lowers their risks for complications from coronavirus.

WARNING

Never Put a Mask on Your Baby

- Because babies have smaller airways, a mask makes it hard for them to breathe.
- Masks pose a risk of strangulation and suffocation.
- A baby can't remove their mask if they're suffocating.



If you are positive for COVID-19

- Wash with soap and water and put on fresh clothes before holding or feeding your baby.
- Wear a mask to help stop the virus from spreading.
- Watch out for symptoms like fever, confusion, or trouble breathing.
- Ask for help caring for your baby and yourself while you recover.



We can help protect each other.

Learn more

www.nationalperinatal.org/COVID-19



SUPPORTING KANGAROO CARE

SKIN-TO-SKIN CARE DURING COVID-19

GET INFORMED ABOUT THE RISKS + BENEFITS

work with your medical team to create a plan

GET CLEAN WASH YOUR HANDS, ARMS, and CHEST

with soap and water for 20+ seconds. Dry well.

PUT ON FRESH CLOTHES

change into a clean gown or shirt.

IF COVID-19 + WEAR A MASK

and ask others to hold your baby when you can't be there

Coronavirus: Parent information for newborn babies

Although the risks are very low, you may be concerned that your baby could get coronavirus. This leaflet tells you what to look out for. Do not delay seeking help if you have concerns.

How will I know if my baby has coronavirus?

Many babies with the virus will not show signs of illness and will recover fully. Some can develop an unstable temperature and/or a cough. Babies with infections do not always develop a fever.

- If your baby has a cough, fever or feels unusually hot or cold, but otherwise well, then call NHS 111.
- If your baby is jaundiced or feeding poorly call your midwifery team
- If your baby shows any signs which concern you in relation to their breathing, colour or movement, then call 999 straight away.

(See more in 'Illness in newborn babies' leaflet)



Is my baby at risk?

Babies can potentially catch coronavirus after birth from anyone infected with the virus, even if that person does not feel unwell. It is recommended that you take your baby home as soon as it is safe for you to do so, and follow government advice for self-isolation and social-distancing.

In particular you should keep your baby away from people with a cough, fever or other viral symptoms such as a runny nose, vomiting or diarrhoea.

How to help

Reduce your baby's risk of catching coronavirus by:

- Hand washing before touching the baby, breast pumps or bottles
- Hand washing after nappy changes and contact with other members of the family
- Avoiding coughing or sneezing on the baby whilst feeding
- Following pump cleaning recommendations after each use
- If you feel unwell, ask someone who is well to feed your baby with expressed milk
- If using a bottle follow sterilisation guide-lines fully



Please turn over for more information

Linens Management

- Handle soiled linen gently to avoid self contamination
- Place soiled linen into bags/containers at point of care
- If linen is grossly soiled:

Remove gross soil (e.g. feces, vomit) with a gloved hand and using a flat, firm object

Discard solid material into flush toilet and dispose of towel into waste

Place soiled linen into a clearly labelled, leak-proof container (e.g., bag and closed bin) in the patient care area

- To wash linen, use washing machine with a water temperature of 60-90 degrees C with regular detergent.
- If a washing machine is not available, wash all soiled linen with hot water and soap/detergent.
- Treat soiled linen before washing
- Rinse with clean water and let dry in the sun if no tumble drier
- Iron if possible to expose to extra heat

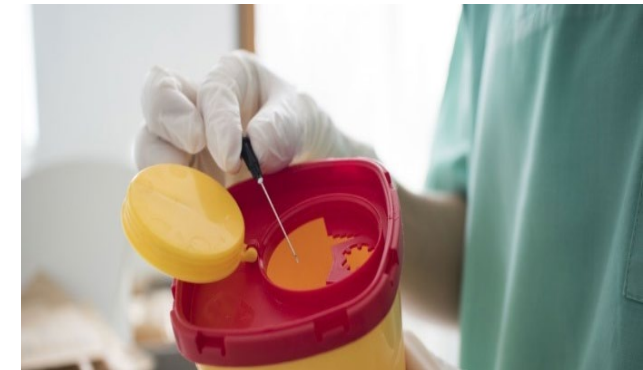
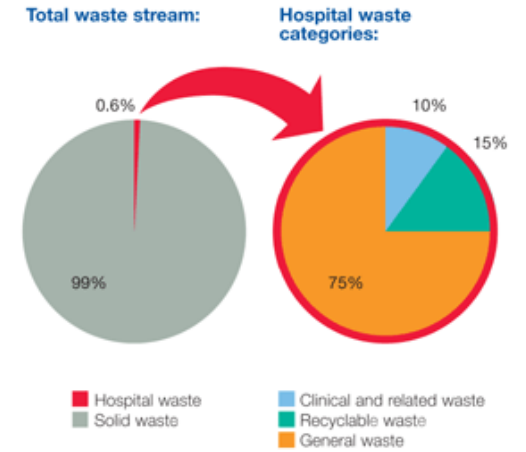


Environmental Cleaning in Maternity

- Cleaning schedule as normal – increase frequency if COVID19 patients
- After each delivery, high-touch surfaces cleaned and disinfected according to IPC standards.
- Terminal cleaning should happen at least once a day. Outside-inside, top to bottom directions for cleaning.
- Any medical equipment used during care that does not require sterilization (i.e. blood pressure cuffs, fetal dopplers /ultrasound machines, stethoscopes, fetal heartrate monitors, chairs and beds, etc.) need to be cleaned and disinfected as policy of unit- / WHO guidelines- 0.1% chlorine or 70% ethanol, or hydrogen peroxide $\geq 0.5\%$

Waste Management

- Cradle to grave concept will be followed.
- All waste generated will be segregated according to risk and classification.
- Isolation area are seen as infection waste and will be handled as infectious waste into yellow bag .
- Medical waste- will be discarded in red bin/box disposed
- Sharps waste will be discarded into sharp box.
- Waste management will be according to your facilities methods
- Cleaners/housekeeping should ensure they are wearing the appropriate PPE when cleaning according to standard and transmission base precaution for any area



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