

# Infant management when mother is suspected or confirmed COVID-19 positive

Updated  
12/13/2021

RN to review COVID-19 positive mother recommendations for infant care with family  
Alert NCCC of pending COVID delivery

COVID ID Pager  
123-2690

If pediatric consult is desired and consult appropriate service. Pediatrics (pg 123-5514) or Family Medicine (MCH pg 216-3048 )  
OB provider to place a consult order. Use .NBNCVID19 for note.

## Mothers and well newborns should be cared for using routine practice including couplet care

Discuss with mother AAP/CDC recommendations for rooming-in vs separation <sup>1,2,4</sup>  
If considering separation please see blue pathway →

## Recommendations for Dyad Care

- Mother should maintain a reasonable distance from her infant when possible
- Dyad should be placed in negative pressure room if available
- Mother and any caregivers should use masks and hand hygiene when providing care
- Instruct family to use good hand hygiene before touching infant
- Discuss breastfeeding (hand hygiene, masks recommended) vs bottle feeding<sup>4</sup>
- **Order COVID-19 PCR NP swab to be obtained at 24 and again at 48 hrs if still hospitalized<sup>5</sup>**
- **Alert Peds ID for any infant's who test positive for COVID-19 or if there are questions**
- **May have hearing screen if 24 COVID-19 PCR NP swab is negative. See guidelines for hearing screening for Covid 19 using Special Airborne contact precautions in the NBN Hearing Screen room**
- NBS filter paper to dry in ante/infant's room. Once dry, place in manila envelope to go to state lab
- Consider discharge planning including recommendations for continuation of isolation at home<sup>6</sup>
- Arrange for outpatient follow up. Call PCP to ensure they will see infant due to COVID exposure. **If PCP won't see infant**, can arrange for outpatient follow up at another local practice that will see COVID exposed infants or UNC Children's Primary Care

If Separation is Warranted  
(severe maternal illness, inability to care for infant)

1. Page PAC 123-5437 to determine bed placement for infant (see Separate doc "Newborn Transfer Workflow for COVID + Mom")
2. Call receiving service to give report on delivery plan
3. Alert NCCC of pending COVID delivery
4. Write Consult note .NBNCVID19

## Recommendations when Separation Warranted

- Receiving team to be present at delivery to transport infant
- Breastfeeding mother: coordinate with RN to obtain pumped milk or use donor milk
- Discuss visiting restrictions for caregiver with infection prevention and charge RN for infant's unit to determine plan<sup>3</sup>
- **Order COVID-19 PCR NP swab to be obtained at 24 and at 48 hrs if still hospitalized**
- **Alert Peds ID for any infant's who test positive for COVID-19 or if there are questions**
- **May have hearing screen if 24 COVID-19 PCR NP swab is negative. See guidelines for hearing screening for Covid 19 using Special Airborne contact precautions in the NBN Hearing Screen room**
- NBS filter paper to dry in infant's room. Once dry, place in manila envelope to go to state lab
- Consider discharge planning including recommendations for continuation of isolation at home<sup>6</sup>, availability of well caregiver, etc.
- Arrange for outpatient follow up. Call PCP to ensure they will see infant due to COVID exposure. **If PCP won't see infant**, can arrange for outpatient follow up at another local practice that will see COVID exposed infants or UNC Children's Primary Care

1. Recommend PHONE consult to limit exposure. If consult in person, wear PPE (N95, gown, gloves, eye protection); 2. Consider mother's course of illness including her symptomatology when discussing risks and benefits; 3. Well caregiver may be allowed to visit infant but likely can not visit both mother and infant; 4. See second page for further discussion points & breastfeeding references; 5. COVID-19 testing for infant per pediatric ID recommendations; 6. Visit CDC provider page and/or consult peds ID with questions

## Additional Resources

### **CDC Provider page:**

[Caring for Newborns | COVID-19 | CDC](#)

### **FAQ from AAP Clinical Guidelines:**

[FAQs: Management of Infants Born to Mothers with Suspected or Confirmed COVID-19 \(aap.org\)](#)

### **AAP Critical Updates on COVID resource page:**

<https://services.aap.org/en/pages/2019-novel-coronavirus-covid-19-infections/>

**AAP Redbook Online:** [https://redbook.solutions.aap.org/selfserve/ssPage.aspx?SelfServeContentId=rbo\\_outbreaks\\_page\\_3](https://redbook.solutions.aap.org/selfserve/ssPage.aspx?SelfServeContentId=rbo_outbreaks_page_3)

*\*\*\* (Recommend visiting CDC and AAP provider pages above to view most up to date recommendations at the time of consult)*

### **Breastfeeding:**

[https://services.aap.org/en/pages/2019-novel-coronavirus-covid-19-infections/clinical-guidance/breastfeeding-guidance-post-hospital-discharge/Care for Breastfeeding Women | CDC](https://services.aap.org/en/pages/2019-novel-coronavirus-covid-19-infections/clinical-guidance/breastfeeding-guidance-post-hospital-discharge/Care%20for%20Breastfeeding%20Women%20|%20CDC)

### **Parent Resources**

AAP Parent information for COVID-19 <https://www.healthychildren.org/English/health-issues/conditions/chest-lungs/Pages/2019-Novel-Coronavirus.aspx>

CDC : [Breastfeeding and Caring for Newborns if You Have COVID-19 | CDC](#)