

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



**COVID ID Pager  
123-2690**

RN determines infant's PCP based on "Who Sees Who" chart

**Initial Newborn Consult by Pediatrics (pg 123-5514) or Family Medicine (MCH pg 216-3048)**  
OB provider places a pediatric consult or family medicine consult order based on infant's PCP

Peds/MCH Provider pages PAC 123-5437 to determine children's bed availability prior to consult

**Mother Chooses Separation**

Discuss with mother AAP/CDC recommendations for rooming-in vs separation<sup>1,2,3,4</sup>  
Use shared decision making. If separation is considered, **discuss potential limitations on bed availability for infant based on conversation with PAC**

**Mother Chooses Rooming-in**

1. Page PAC 123-5437 again 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. Call NCCC fellow at 4-6281 to notify of pending COVID delivery in the event resuscitation is needed at delivery
4. Write Consult note using smartphrase .NBNCOVID19

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- Receiving team to be present at delivery to transport infant
- **Bathe infant on admission as soon as possible**
- Breastfeeding mother: coordinate with RN to obtain pumped milk or use donor milk
- Well caregiver may visit infant and provide care during hospitalization, but may not visit mother and must wear PPE
- **Consult with Peds ID<sup>5</sup>. Order COVID-19 PCR NP swab to be obtained at 24 and at 48 hrs if still hospitalized**
- NO hearing screen inpatient, place audiology referral at discharge & notify audiology team
- 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 UNC PCP or PCP won't see, arrange for outpatient follow up at Respiratory Diagnostic Center (Cary)\*\***

- Limit skin to skin
- Infant can be in bassinet when in room if > 6 feet can be maintained
- Dyad should be placed in negative pressure room
- **Nursery RN to Bathe infant on admission to nursery service**
- Masks should be worn by mother and any caregiver should wear PPE (gown, gloves, surgical mask)
- Instruct family to use good hand hygiene before touching infant
- Infant should remain 6 feet away from mom in bassinet, consider physical barrier such as a curtain
- If well caregiver present, may provide care for infant while wearing PPE (gown, gloves, surgical mask)
- Discuss breastfeeding (breast hygiene, masks and gloves recommended) vs bottle feeding<sup>4</sup>
- **Consult Peds ID<sup>5</sup> Order COVID-19 PCR NP swab to be obtained at 24 and at 48 hrs if still hospitalized**
- **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
- Arrange for outpatient follow up. Call PCP to ensure they will see infant due to COVID exposure. **If UNC PCP or PCP won't see, arrange for outpatient follow up at Respiratory Diagnostic Center (Cary)\*\***

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 of both options; 3. Consider mother's home situation and the practicality of continuing isolation at time of discharge; 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 & discuss with peds ID to determine when home isolation may be discontinued \*\*Send Epic staff message to the RDC schedule pool-request an appointment for the Pediatric RDC in Cary (1515 Cary Parkway)– please request a 40min time slot for a newborn.

## Additional Resources

**CDC Provider page:**

<https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/hcp/inpatient-obstetric-healthcare-guidance.html>

**FAQ from AAP Clinical Guidelines:**

<https://services.aap.org/en/pages/2019-novel-coronavirus-covid-19-infections/clinical-guidance/faqs-management-of-infants-born-to-covid-19-mothers/>

**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://www.bfmed.org/abm-statement-coronavirus>

<https://services.aap.org/en/pages/2019-novel-coronavirus-covid-19-infections/clinical-guidance/breastfeeding-guidance-post-hospital-discharge/>

<https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/hcp/care-for-breastfeeding-women.html>

**Parent Resources**

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