

ILPQC COVID 19 OB/Neonatal Webinar 4/3/20: Neo Questions/Answers

Answers represent experiences and strategies related to caring for patients during the COVID-19 pandemic and are considered guidance only, unless national or state guidelines are referenced.

Neonatal Questions from Chatbox:

- **Does anyone have the PUI or COVID + mother sign an informed consent if she insists on having the baby Rooming-In.** The possible, not completely known risks of rooming-in should be reviewed with the mother. Some centers in the US are rooming-in for most cases. Others are not per the AAP guidance from 4/2/2020. The discussion should be documented in the chart, but we would not recommend having mother sign an informed consent, as we cannot accurately present the risks and benefits at this time.
- **How would you care for a pt who drove from NY recently (still in quarantine phase) if she goes in labor? She does not have any symptoms and cannot do COVID test. She is PUI? I would advocate testing her.**
- **Are all term babies being kept on cont. pulse ox if mom COVID+?** Pulse oximetry is not recommended for asymptomatic babies. Some hospitals occasionally place their term newborns on pulse oximetry for a brief period under certain circumstances, such as chorioamnionitis or in infants that are left alone in a room. This based on the infant's clinical condition, not driven by the mother's COVID status.
- **Are people delaying circs for PUI and COVID pos moms? Any protective equipment for support person when caring for baby?** Most hospitals have stopped offering circumcisions for male infants of COVID positive moms.

Neonatal Questions from Info@ILPQC account

- **If have a separate room deemed as isolation with door shut for baby is it also recommended to keep well baby in isolette as well in that room or can they be in a crib?** AAP recommends isolette and/or 6 feet separation from each infant.
- **How long does baby remain in isolation at home if both parent + Covid-19 with symptoms? Till symptom free? Or recommend further testing of both parents?** The AAP recommendations as of April 2, 2020 suggest that home isolation should occur until EITHER (a) she has been afebrile for 72 hours without use of antipyretics, and (b) at least 7 days have passed since symptoms first appeared; OR she has negative results of a molecular assay for detection of SARS-CoV-2 from at least two consecutive nasopharyngeal swab specimens collected ≥ 24 hours apart.
- **How long is it recommended to wait until a hearing screen is done on a baby for a + Covid-19 mom?** The AAP recommends hearing screening before discharge at the same time as a non-COVID-19 would be tested. Some data suggests a higher rate of false referrals when tested at less than 12 hours for vaginal deliveries and less than 32 hours of life for C-section born infants.
- **Are there screening recommendations that NICUs are using for visiting parents? (Checking for fever, etc.?)** Screening questions should be the same as the screening questions for employees and staff, if this is employed.
- **Any further clinical recommendations for a PUI infant? Should they be monitored for 72hrs? Discharged as soon as possible? Any medication recommendations if infants are PCR positive?**

The infant should be discharged in the same timeframe as an infant who is not COVID-19 exposed. Early discharge is not recommended, especially before 24 hours.