

**SHSCT DHH PATHWAY FOR STAFF MANAGING AN INFANT WITH  
SUSPECTED/CONFIRMED COVID-19**

Every situation is different and staff should make immediate contact with SHSCT IPCT. Contact list in **COVID-19** folder at nurse's station.

**If mum is positive and Baby is well baby should stay in the postnatal ward**

**If mum is positive or suspected covid-19 and the baby needs admitted to the Special Care Baby Unit the following needs to be adhered to**

- A designated senior member of the nursing and medical team should be assigned to attend delivery/admission.
- Full PPE should be donned in anticipation of possible neonatal resuscitation
- One member of staff will be allocated per shift to care for the baby on a one to one basis.
- All transfers between departments should be in a closed incubator.
- Transfer to isolation room in the Special Care Baby Unit and where possible all procedures and investigations can be carried out.
- In the event of having two baby's they can be cohorted in the isolation room. This is all we can accommodate.
- Ensure emergency **COVID-19** intubation box is set up for isolation room.
- Commence register of members of staff who have come into contact with baby.
- **COVID-19 positive parents should not be able to visit their baby in the special care baby unit. Parents who have been screened for whatever reason should not be permitted to visit their baby until they have been confirmed negative. No other visitors should be allowed unless in exceptional circumstances.**
- Due to the above circumstances we would try to update parents via telephone and video techniques.

## **WHAT NEEDS TO BE DONE IMMEDIATELY?**

Laboratory investigations and sample requirements to be done.

- Take three **dry** swabs, one from both nostrils and a throat swab which are clearly labelled with the baby's details.
- All samples must be delivered by hand and double bagged
- Clearly labelled as "**Risk of infection –COVID-19**"
- Specimens should be placed in the first bag in the isolation room and then this staff member should drop the bag into a second bag held by a staff member outside the room.
- Forms should be clearly labelled as **?COVID-19**
- Request forms should be in second bag and be clearly visible.
- If any infant is swabbed for **COVID-19** email [annie.wiggam@southerntrust.hscni.net](mailto:annie.wiggam@southerntrust.hscni.net).

### **Issues**

**Transport of babies to level 1 and 2 units. Should we be delivering here**

**Removal of ppe: where**

**Storage of ebm from a positive mother**

**Milk bank accepting milk from mothers**