

COVID-19 Considerations for Labor & Delivery Patients



Infectious Disease Considerations

- Decide which parts of your facility's infectious disease policy apply to labor and delivery.
- Identify key players in your labor and delivery plan (nursing, OB, neonatal, etc.) to communicate COVID-19 specific plans with them.
- Complete walk-throughs of each area a patient or caregiver could touch or enter your unit.



Screening and Testing Considerations

- Screen patients and visitors for symptoms or exposure.
- Know how your facility handles testing.
 - Are all pregnant patients tested?
 - How do you allocate rooms, PPE, and other resources if patients test positive?
 - What is your visitor policy for patients who test positive?

Medical Practice Considerations

Antepartum



- Use telemedicine to decrease physical visits if possible.
- Work with the infectious disease and pulmonary teams to determine if COVID-19 positive patients need steroids or anticoagulants, depending on delivery date.

Intrapartum



- Decide how to group patients who test positive.
- Check the timing of IV fluid delivery.
- Determine if COVID-19 positive patients should receive magnesium.
- Check your azithromycin supply and determine if it will be used prophylactically.
- Have a strong communication plan for all teams.

Postpartum

- Will you co-room seemingly healthy mothers with their neonate?
- How will you educate and provide PPE to patients for breast feeding or pumping?



ICU Care

- Plan for and run simulations of deliveries that happen outside the unit.
- Decide how you can efficiently deploy staff and equipment to areas outside of labor and delivery.

