COVID-19 Maternity care for women who are suspected/confirmed Women's at Sandringham



Immediate Actions

- Screen all women for COVID-19 symptoms by telephone if possible, and at point of entry.
- The woman's support person must be asymptomatic and will be required to wear a mask. A support person who screens as *suspected* will be denied admission to the hospital.
- Notify the Access Manager/After Hours Manager of all pending suspected/confirmed COVID-19 cases for admission. See <u>Flow Chart F</u> reporting and contact pathway for Women's at Sandringham.
- Notify the consultant anaesthetist of all suspected/confirmed admissions to Assessment Centre or Birth Centre.
 - Notify the multidisciplinary team (MDT) of all suspected/confirmed in-patient admissions.
- Afterhours Clinical Coordinator (OOHC) at Sandringham and COVID-19 Care Coordinator at Parkville (ext: 2020)

1. Purpose

This clinical guideline outlines the requirement for managing pregnant and newly-parturient women with suspected or confirmed COVID-19 infection at the Women's at Sandringham. Refer to the COVID-19 case definition and testing criteria web page for the most recent definitions and testing criteria.

This guideline refers to the care of women in the **second or third trimesters** of pregnancy. Care of women in the first trimester must include attention to the same infection prevention and investigation/diagnostic guidance, as for non-pregnant adults.

This guideline is related to:

- Infection Prevention: Standard and Transmission- Based Precautions
- Infection prevention: Patient management during a Pandemic
- New Guideline COVID-19 (25/03/20)
- Cleaning, Disinfection and Sterilisation of reusable Medical equipment
- Refer to Alfred Health infection prevention guideline for cleaning (link on desktop in clinical areas at Sandringham)

Acknowledgments: Monash Health, Mercy Hospital for Women, Western Health, and Safer Care Victoria, Professor Ryan Hodges, Andrea Rindt, and the team at Monash Health. The guideline is underpinned by the Royal College of Obstetrician and Gynaecologist Coronavirus (COVID-19) Infection in Pregnancy Version 5: Published Monday 28 March 2020: https://www.rcog.org.uk/coronavirus-pregnancy

2. Definitions

SARS-CoV-2: a new strain of coronavirus causing COVID-19, first identified in Wuhan City, China.

COVID-19 symptoms: influenza-like illness with a fever above 37.5, symptoms of acute respiratory infection (shortness of breath, cough, coryza and/or sore throat), may also include muscle pain and fatigue. See background information for information on transmission and effects.

PPE: personal protective equipment. Equipment that provides a protective barrier to prevent infection e.g. gowns, gloves, masks, protective eyewear. Refer to the table on the intranet page <u>Personal Protective</u> <u>Equipment</u> for guidance on choosing correct equipment for the circumstances. This web page also contains information on the correct process for applying and removing PPE.

MDT: Multidisciplinary Team at Sandringham, consisting of: Consultant obstetrician, Midwife, Consultant anaesthetist, Paediatrician, Theatre Charge Nurse, SCN nurse ID Consultant (telephone consultation). The incharge midwife notifies the MDT when alerted to the admission of a COVID-19 suspected or confirmed case. Notify the multidisciplinary team as required. Refer to Flow Chart F reporting and contact pathway for notification responsibility. Unplanned ambulance or private car transfer into Sandringham requiring emergency management – establish COVID status and organise PERS transfer ASAP.

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Responsibilities

Medical, midwifery and nursing staff caring for pregnant women, Women's at Sandringham Management Team, Women's Parkville and Alfred Prahran Executive; Infectious Diseases at Alfred Prahran and Parkville.

4. Guideline

4.1 Advice for ALL pregnant women See Flow Chart A

Advise women to call ahead before they attend their GP practice or Emergency Department if suspected or COVID-19 positive. Discuss all medical appointments in advance so steps to minimise contact with others can be taken.

If it is an emergency, direct the woman to phone 000 and tell the operator of possible COVID-19 exposure.

Advise that they will be screened during a phone triage/consult and/or when presenting to hospital to determine the appropriate care pathway. They should be reassured that care will not be denied- just that the pathways for those with suspected or actual infection will be different.

Advise that only two support persons may come with them to hospital when in labour and that these persons must be free of COVID-19 symptoms and consider organising another substitute support person should one of their preferred persons become ill. Advise new restricted visiting hours due to COVID-19.

4.2 COVID-19 screening See Flow Chart AA, Flow Chart B, and Flow Chart F

See the DHHS COVID-19 assessment and streaming matrix for more detailed advice.

<u>Telephone screening</u> will be conducted by the midwife in the birth unit and upon entry to the Sandringham hospital. If the woman screens as suspected or confirmed AND is safe and approved by Women's (AHC) Parkville to transfer, arrange for woman to go directly to Parkville. See Flow Chart D Suspected or confirmed COVID-19 transport advice. Only under exceptional circumstances a COVID+ or suspected woman can be assessed at Sandringham e.g; BBA, placental abruption/ APH.

All other indications for assessment will occur in the Birth Centre Room1 for the precautions required.

4.3 When hospital attendance is necessary (suspected and confirmed) See Flow Chart F

Women who develop new symptoms during admission at the Women's at Sandringham:

As the estimated incubation period is up to 14 days (mean 5-6 days), staff must be aware of the possibility that an infected woman may present asymptomatic and develop COVID-19 symptoms later during an admission.

Testing for COVID-19 should be performed with appropriate PPE. Contact AHC at Parkville for advice. See Flow Chart F

- **4.3.1** Maternity presentations to pregnancy care clinic who are then suspected to have symptoms of **COVID-19.** Screen all women presenting to antenatal outpatient clinic. See <u>Flow Chart AA</u>, <u>Flow Chart C</u>, and <u>Flow Chart F</u> taking the recommended precautions and utilising the recommended settings for assessment.
- **4.3.2** Pregnancy care presentation with suspected or confirmed COVID-19 See Flow Chart F

 If it is determined the woman is confirmed COVID-19 and is greater than 20 weeks gestation a management plan for this episode of care needs to include the following people:
 - After Hours Manager at Parkville (Ext. 2020)
 - A clinical management plan and location of care into the future to be determined on case by case basis.

Once the woman has recovered from the infection plan further pregnancy care at Women's at Sandringham only after consultation with the Alfred Hospital and Parkville Infectious Diseases consultant, Services Manager, Clinic Care Coordinator and Sandringham Head of Unit.

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Consider fetal growth surveillance starting 14 days following resolution of acute illness and then monthly thereafter. Although there is not yet evidence that fetal growth restriction (FGR) is a risk of COVID-19, two thirds of pregnancies with SARS were affected by FGR.

Testing for gestational diabetes (GDM) during the pandemic. See Flow Chart G- Screening for GDM at Sandringham during COVID-19

4.3.3 Planned induction of labour

- Any woman who is COVID-19 positive or suspected will be transferred to Women's at Parkville for IOL.
- If IOL cannot safely be delayed, the essential advice for care to women admitted to hospital when affected by suspected/confirmed COVID-19 must be followed.

4.3.4 Elective caesarean birth

Any woman who is COVID-19 positive or suspected will be transferred to Parkville for elective caesarean.

4.4 Birth Centre- initial assessment - See Flow Chart F

- Refer to Alfred Health Obstetrics at Sandringham, summary of workflow for COVID-19 suspected or confirmed
- **4.4.1** Care in Labour See Flow Chart F and Appendix 1. Perioperative Management and Workflow of the Confirmed, Suspected, or Unknown COVID-19 Obstetric Patient at Sandringham Hospital Alfred Health.
- 4.4.2 When caesarean birth or other operative procedure is required in an emergency

 See Flow Chart F and Appendix 1. Perioperative Management and Workflow of the Confirmed, Suspected, or Unknown COVID-19 Obstetric Patient at Sandringham Hospital Alfred Health

4.4.3 Delayed cord clamping (DCC) is still recommended following birth for term babies, provided there are no other contraindications.

- Cleaned and dry the baby as normal, while the cord is still intact.
- Discuss the risks and benefits of delayed cord clamping for preterm infants with the senior neonatologist on duty. In case of precipitate preterm birth where this discussion has not happened, conduct DCC.

4.4.4 Placenta and membranes

- Treat the placenta as infectious. Given the limited information about vertical transmission, <u>placental</u> histopathology and testing for COVID-19 via PCR is recommended.
- Ensure this is clearly documented on the pathology request form.

4.4.5 Skin to skin and early breastfeeding

- Where a newborn baby is term, healthy and not expected to require admission to SCN, immediately after birth the mother should don a surgical mask and be supported with skin to skin contact and breastfeeding.
- When a baby is preterm or has a known condition expected to require admission to SCN, skin to skin is not encouraged and the baby will be placed in an incubator following resuscitation (if required).
- The baby must remain in the birthing room with the mother at all times. All resuscitation must occur in the birthing room/theatre.
 - If necessary, take a portable resuscitaire to the baby rather than the baby to the resuscitaire (postnatal wards).

4.4.6 Cleaning of room and equipment after the birth

- Ensure that cleaning staff are informed of the necessity of wearing PPE prior to entering the room.
- Bag reusable sterile equipment separately and send directly to SPS (use the specified bags in Birth room 1)
- Clean CTG machines and all other reusable, non-sterile equipment with red wipes as usual practice.
- Discard CTG belts.
- If aerosol generating procedures (AGP) were performed, i.e. during a Category 1 caesarean, AGP <u>cleaning</u> <u>precautions</u> are required.

4.5 Anaesthetic management for suspected women: See Flow Chart F

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- Refer to Alfred Health Obstetrics at Sandringham, summary of workflow for COVID-19 suspected or confirmed
- **4.6** Additional considerations for women with confirmed COVID-19 and moderate/severe symptoms Where pregnant women are admitted to hospital with deterioration in symptoms and suspected/ confirmed COVID-19 infection, the following recommendations apply:
- 4.6.1 Women admitted during pregnancy (not in labour) See Flow Chart F

4.6.2 Particular considerations for pregnant women are:

An individualised assessment of the woman should be made by the MDT team to decide whether elective birth of the baby is indicated, either to assist efforts in maternal resuscitation or where there are serious concerns regarding the fetal condition. Individual assessment should consider: the maternal condition, the fetal condition, the potential for improvement following elective birth and the gestation of the pregnancy. The priority must always be the wellbeing of the mother.

COVID-19 Maternity care for women who are suspected/confirmed Women's at Sandringham



4.6.3 Women with moderate/severe COVID-19 in labour – classification of disease severity whilst awaiting transfer to Women's Parkville see Table 1.

https://www.dhhs.vic.gov.au/covid-19-guidance-unwell-woman;

Table 1. Classification of disease severity

Table 1. Classification of disease severity							
	No clinical features suggestive of moderate or severe disease. Characteristics:						
Mild	- no symptoms						
Illness	or mild upper respiratory tract symptoms						
	 or cough, new myalgia or asthenia without new shortness of breath or a reduction in oxygen 						
	saturation						
	Stable woman presenting with respiratory and/or systemic symptoms or signs						
	Able to maintain oxygen saturation above 92% (or above 90% for women with chronic lung disease)						
Moderate	with up to 4L/min oxygen via nasal prongs						
Illness	Prostration, severe asthenia, fever > 38 °C or persistent cough						
	Clinical or radiological signs of lung involvement						
	No clinical or laboratory indicators of clinical severity or respiratory impairment						
	Women meeting any of the following criteria:						
Severe	 respiratory rate ≥ 30 breaths/min 						
Illness	 oxygen saturation ≤ 92% at a rest state and/or arterial partial pressure of oxygen (PaO2)/ 						
	inspired oxygen fraction (FiO2) ≤ 300						
	Women meeting any of the following criteria:						
	Respiratory Failure:						
	 occurrence of severe respiratory failure (PaO2/FiO2 ratio < 200) 						
	 respiratory distress or acute respiratory distress syndrome (ARDS) 						
	 Note: this includes patients deteriorating despite advanced forms of respiratory support (NIV, 						
Critical	HFNO) OR patients requiring mechanical ventilation.						
Illness	OR						
	Other signs of significant deterioration:						
	 hypotension or shock 						
	 impairment of consciousness 						
	- other organ failure						

COVID Management at the Women's at Sandringham includes the following:

- Pregnant women requiring admission for primarily COVID-related symptoms will NOT be admitted to the Women's at Sandringham. They will be transferred to RMH with the Women's to provide obstetric medical care and fetal surveillance.
- Pregnant women who need admission for primarily obstetric reasons, and who have only mild COVIDrelated symptoms, will be transferred to the Women's at Parkville for care.
- Pregnant women with moderate, severe, or critical COVID-related symptoms should be admitted to RMH and the Women's to provide obstetric medical care and fetal surveillance.
- Pregnant women who have been admitted to the Women's at Sandringham, and deteriorate with COVID-related symptoms should be managed on an individualised basis. The decision to expedite delivery, the site of delivery, and/or transfer to ICU needs to be made on a case-by-case basis.

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4.7 Postnatal management see:

http://intranet.thewomens.loc/pgp/Documents/COVID-

19%20Maternity%20care%20for%20women%20who%20are%20suspected%20confirmed.pdf;

4.7.1 Infant care See Flow Chart | Need to insert Link

4.8 Discharge Planning

Any COVID-19 positive women need to be assessed as appropriate for discharge. Planning for PNCITH visits should form part of this discharge planning.

Ensure that all women with suspected or confirmed COVID-19 have this clearly documented in their discharge summary for the Maternal and Child Health Nurse, GP and/or outsourced home visits.

All women to be advised prior to discharge that they will be contacted by PNCITH on day of proposed visit. As part of discharge planning a home risk assessment is performed prior to discharge.

Advise the woman that the visiting midwife will telephone her and ask her to answer her phone when 'No Caller ID' is displayed.

4.8.1 Postnatal Care in the Home (PNCITH) See Flow Chart E PNCITH

A management plan for PNCITH for suspected/confirmed cases are referred to on a case by case basis.

General precautions

- When planning PNCITH visits, consider if a home visit is vital for any woman or if a telephone consult would be sufficient, particularly if the woman is multiparous.
- Consider if the infant needs physical assessment e.g. weight, TcB, SBR, NST
- Determine if an NST has been done prior to discharge, to avoid unnecessary contact.
- Ensure that the PNCITH cars are stocked with full PPE equipment, including appropriate disposal bags.
- Ensure appropriate stocks of cleaning equipment to ensure scales etc. are appropriately cleaned between each visit.

Home visits

- Other household members, including children, must not be present during the physical visit.
- Conduct most of the visit from the car by telephone, even if sitting in front of the house.
- Each telephone contact must include the standard screening questions and appropriate precautions taken. See Screening and precautions required flowchart AA.
- Establish what equipment is needed in the home; minimise items taken into the home.
- Clean equipment before and after use with alcohol wipes.
- Swab the interior and exterior car door handles and steering wheel with wipes and use hand sanitiser after leaving the premises.
- Ask the woman to be in a room as close to the front door as possible for the physical assessment to avoid going into several rooms.
- Keep the physical visit to less than 15 minutes and actual face-to-face contact to less than 10 minutes. The consult can continue by phone afterwards.
- If a baby weight and/or NST is required, ask the woman to have the baby undressed (but wrapped in a blanket) and ready for this before you enter the premises.
- Include advice on standard hygiene techniques as part of the general education.
- Provide as much breast-feeding support as possible verbally, over the phone.
- Women can be referred to the breastfeeding service, as usual, as additional or specialist lactation care/ review
- Lactation consultants in the breastfeeding service will discuss with the woman what will be the best type of appointment for her including telephone call, video-call or face-to-face appointment

In the event that the **woman is unable to be contacted by telephone**, send an SMS asking her to contact the PNCITH contact number as soon as possible.

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Evaluation, monitoring and reporting of compliance to this guideline or procedure

Compliance to this guideline or procedure will be monitored, evaluated and reported through VHMIS.

References

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Perioperative Management and Workflow of the Confirmed, Suspected, or Unknown COVID-19 Obstetric Patient at Sandringham Hospital Alfred Health 22 May 2020

Legislation/Regulations related to this guideline or procedure

NΑ

Appendices

Flow chart A General Advice for all pregnant women
Screening and precautions required
Telephone Screening

Flow chart C Pregnancy Clinic attendance

Flow chart D Suspected or confirmed COVID-19 transport advice

Flow chart E PNCITH

Flow chart F Reporting and contact pathway for COVID-19

Flow chart G GDM screening flow chart

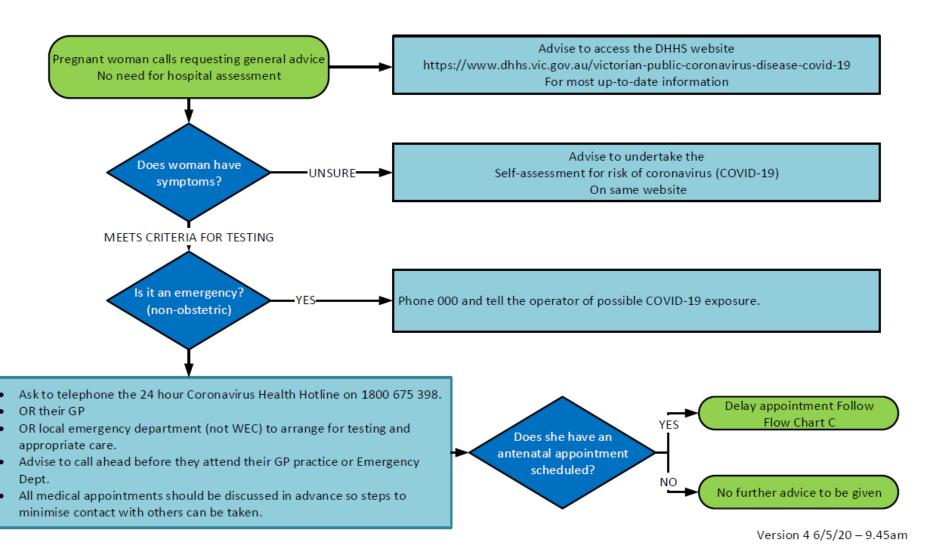
Flow Chart H COVID-19 Women's at Sandringham Maternity
Women's at Sandringham COVID-19 Neonatal

Appendix 1. Perioperative Management and Workflow of the Confirmed, Suspected, or Unknown COVID-19 Obstetric Patient at Sandringham Hospital Alfred Health

Flow Chart A

Women's at Sandringham General advice for all pregnant woman (with no immediate need for hospital assessment)

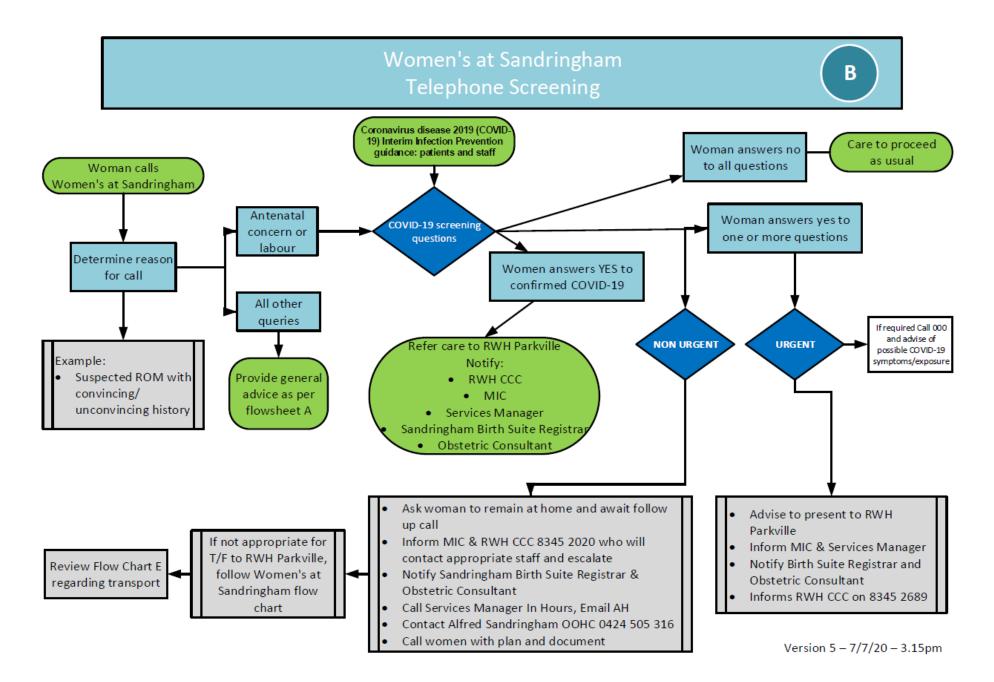






Women's at Sandringham Screening

Coronavirus disease 2019 (COVID-19) Interim Infection Prevention guidance: patients and staff



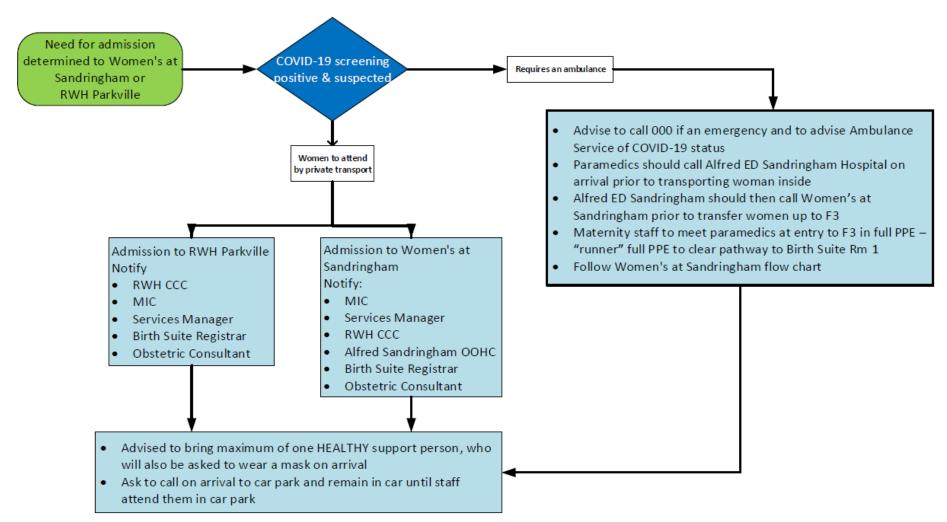
Flow Chart C

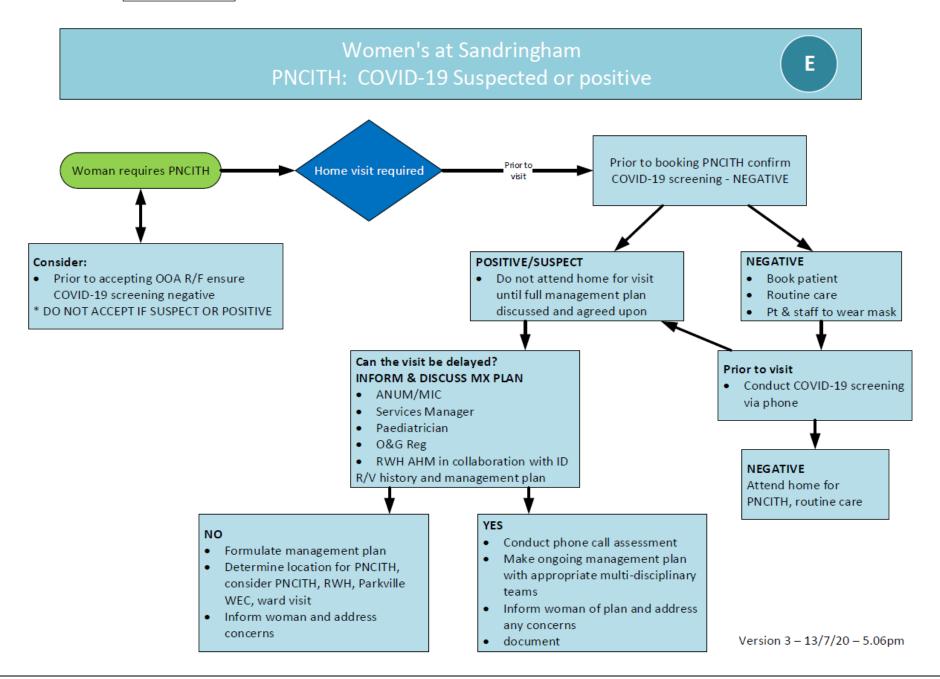
Attendance for pregnancy care - Outpatients Woman presents to COVID-19 screening Women's at Sandringham NO to all questions Directed to Relevant Waiting at clinic entry Outpatient Clinic area for care Discloses risk of COVID-19 During consultation YES Provide woman with surgical mask immediately and Advise woman to return to her car remain in current room and await follow up phone call • Notify Clinic Coordinator AND Services Manager for Notify Clinic Coordinator on going care If appropriate COVID swab Ensure COVID clean of all potentially exposed spaces Can visit be delayed? Clinic Coordinator to review history If Not, notify and discuss/create mx plan with: Clinic Coordinator, Services Manager, MIC, Birth Suite Registrar, Obstetric Consultant, Determine if telephone appointment RWH CCC in collaboration with ID, swab with GP and/or WEC, follow referral processes appropriate Review need for investigations today Make appointment Consider conducting COVID-19 swab in clinic room Avoid face-to-face consult until cleared, YES Support person to remain in car if possible Keep door closed Document management plan for follow-Ideally women to remain in designated space and avoid exposure to multiple areas up care Determine if referral to COVID-19 Version 6 - 13/7/20 - 5.06pm screening clinic is required for testing

Women's at Sandringham Suspected or confirmed COVID-19

When hospital attendance is necessary, such as imminent birth or Obstetric Emergency

Transport Advice





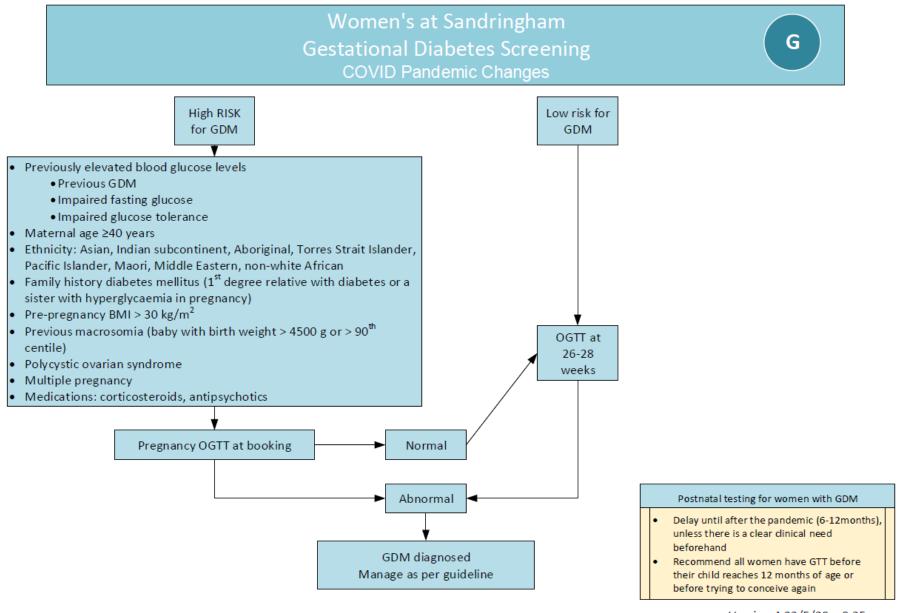
Flow Chart F

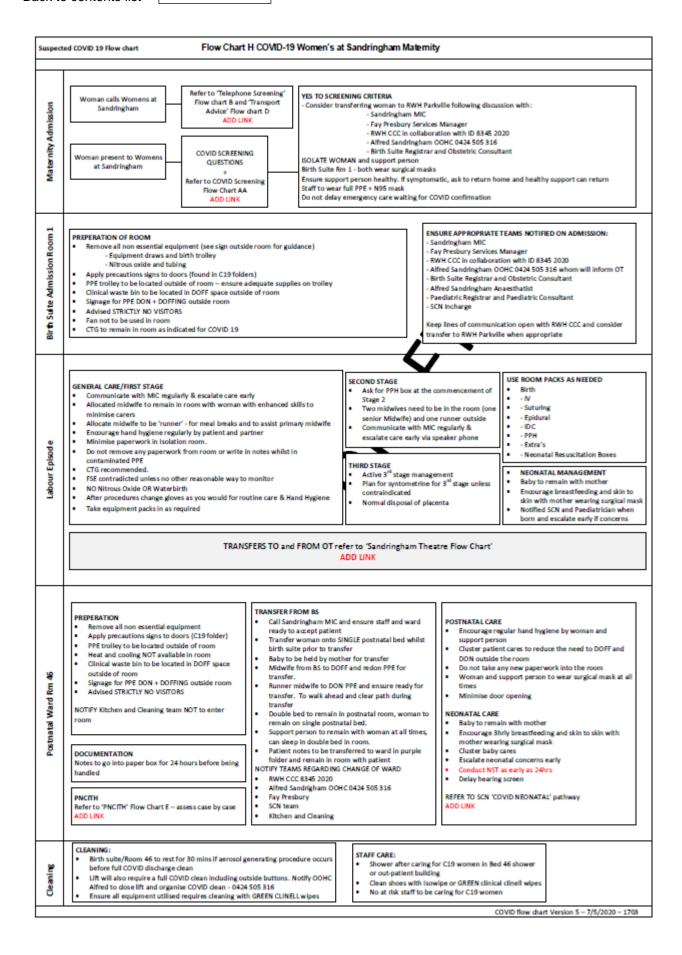
Women's at Sandringham SUSPECTED OR CONFIRMED COVID CARE PATIENT PATHWAY CALL COVID CARE COORDINATOR (Ext 8345 2689)



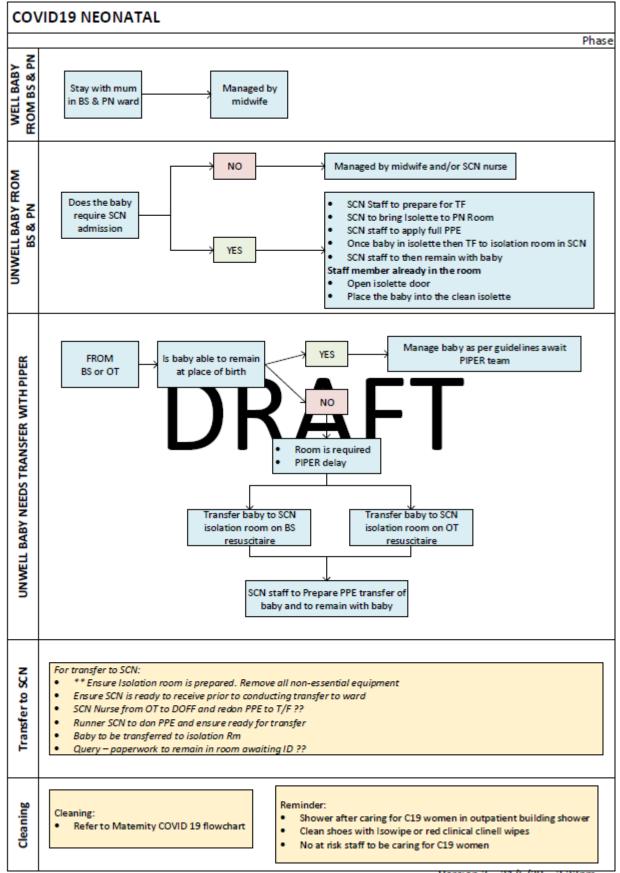
Note: Only an Infectious Diseases Physician can confirm that a patient should be placed on a Suspected or Confirmed COVID Care Path way. The Infectious Diseases Physician on duty must be contacted by the COVID CARE COORDINATOR as soon as they are informed by a member of staff that a patient with a suspected/confirmed case is being admitted OR if a member of staff has become concerned about a current inpatient. The decision from the Infectious Diseases Physician must be clearly documented in the patient's file and followed by all staff.

	Maternity Inpatient pathway				Theatre	Neonatal Pathway	Maternity Outpatient	
	AAU	Birth Centre	Antenatal	Postnatal		,	Pathway	
Notify COVID coordinator	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	
Notify ID physician	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	No	Yes	Yes	
What extension	MIC	MIC	MIC	MIC	OT in charge	ANUM SCN	TCC	
to call	0407 743 117	0407 743 117	0407 743 117	0407 743 117	0408315275	0466 412 089	8345 3296	
Location to					Call AUM	COVID19	See Flow Chart C	
transfer patient to	BS 1	BS 1	BS 1	F3 RM 46	0407743117 to	Isolation Room		
					discuss	• SCN		
Key people to	•RWH CCC/ID	RWH CCC/ID	RWH CCC/ID	RWH CCC/ID	RWH CCC/ID	RWH CCC/ID	RWH CCC/ID	
notify	 Birth Suite Registrar 	 Birth Suite Registrar 	Birth Suite Registrar	 Birth Suite Registrar 	Birth Suite Registrar	 Neonatal Registrar 	Birth Suite Registrar	
,	 Obstetric Consultant 	 Obstetric Consultant 	Obstetric Consultant	 Obstetric Consultant 	Obstetric Consultant	 Neonatal Consultant 	Obstetric Consultant	
	•MIC	• MIC	MIC	• MIC	• MIC	• MIC	• MIC	
	•SCN	• SCN	SCN	• SCN	• SCN	 Alfred Sandringham 	• SCN	
	 Anaesthetist 	 Anaesthetist 	 Anaesthetist 	 Anaesthetist 	 Anaesthetist 	OOHC	 Anaesthetist 	
	 Alfred Sandringham 	 OT in charge 	 Alfred Sandringham 	 Alfred Sandringham 	OT in charge		 Alfred Sandringham 	
	OOHC	 Alfred Sandringham 	OOHC	OOHC	 Alfred Sandringham 		OOHC	
		OOHC			OOHC		 Services Manager 	





Flow Chart I



Version 3 - 21/5/20 - 2.33pm

Appendix 1. Health	Perioperative Ma	anagement and Wo	rkflow of the Confir	med, Suspected, o	or Unknown COVID	-19 Obstetric Patie	nt at Sandringham F	Hospital Alfred
<u>Health</u>								