

COVID-19 Standard Work Breast Milk Handling for Positive Person or Person Under Investigation – July 7, 2020 1345

Spectrum Health contact Carolyn Leja/Charmaine Kyle *Highlight denotes new content

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| Step | Action | Team Member |
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| | Main Points: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Patients may breastfeed and provide expressed breast milk. 2. Patients are instructed in hand-washing, mask and gloves. | |
| 1. | Patient Education <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Perform hand hygiene immediately before touching baby, breasts, bottle parts or breast pump and clean all parts of the pump after each use. • Keep breasts covered so they don't become contaminated from respiratory secretions. If breasts become contaminated wash breasts with soap and water. • Wear a mask during breastfeeding or collection of colostrum/milk. Remember: Hand hygiene and cough etiquette are essential for ALL family members and should be taught and used when in hospital and at home. | RN |
| 2. | Breastfeeding <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Patient to wash hands before breastfeeding and put on mask | Patient |
| 3. | Collecting Milk <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Patient to wash hands before expressing milk and put on mask • Wipe the surface where syringes/bottles will be placed after collection with appropriate wipe and cover surface with clean paper towel or cloth. • Patient collects breast milk by hand or by pump into clean syringes or bottles. • Thoroughly wash all pump components that meet breast milk and breast pump per manufacturer directions. | Patient and RN |
| 4. | Prepare milk for transport <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Label syringes or bottle per policy with breast milk stickers • Follow Standard Precautions. For details see Blood Borne Pathogen Exposure Control Plan | RN or Tech |
| 6. | Retrieving Milk from Patient Room <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Don appropriate PPE and retrieve milk from patient's room | RN |

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- Follow [Blood Borne Pathogen Exposure Control Plan](#) for transport of milk using Standard Precautions.

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| 7. Receiving Milk | RN |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Receive clean bag with pumped milk• If taking into room with baby don appropriate PPE and follow appropriate procedure to transfer milk into baby's room | |
| 8. Feeding Milk | RN or Healthy Parent/Support Person/Care giver |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Expressed breast milk should be fed to the infant by a healthy caregiver, who is not at high-risk for severe illness from COVID-19.(CDC) | |

CDC Guidance on Breastfeeding:

<https://www.cdc.gov/breastfeeding/breastfeeding-special-circumstances/maternal-or-infant-illnesses/covid-19-and-breastfeeding.html>