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All obstetric patients being admitted (gestational age > 22 weeks) with anticipated delivery within seven (7) days will be tested for COVID – 19 using the rapid test. The testing is performed as soon as possible by the nurse after the patient arrives and the decision is made for admission. Nurses can order the COVID PCR, rapid test in Epic based on protocol.

The rationale for universal testing of all obstetric patients is:
- Reduce the spread of COVID between patients, newborns and staff
- Appropriately manage the newborn after delivery
- Inform appropriate PPE use (e.g.- adding PPE in asymptomatic positive patients)
- Reduce unnecessary PPE use (e.g.- in COVID neg mom, avoid wearing N95 for bag mask of a newborn)
- Cohort patients appropriately

**Symptomatic patients** (fever, cough, shortness of breath) – place in severe respiratory isolation and order COVID PCR, rapid test. Select the option “yes, symptomatic” when ordering the test to ensure proper EPIC documentation and isolation initiated. Follow appropriate algorithm for the treatment and management of COVID – 19 positive women and newborns (Women's and Infants Services Algorithm).

**Asymptomatic patients** – order COVID PCR, rapid test if not done within the last 48 hours prior to admission. Patient is not a PUI while awaiting test results.
- If the patient tests positive, place in severe respiratory isolation and follow appropriate algorithm for the treatment and management of COVID – 19 positive women and newborns (Women's and Infants Services Algorithm).
- **Asymptomatic patients** who decline testing – patient is not considered a PUI. Standard precautions apply.

**Prior positive Covid-19 Test** – Women who had a prior positive COVID-19 test in the last 28 days should not be retested
- Patients should remain in isolation and require appropriate PPE for all spaces including procedural spaces for 10 days and 72 hours fever-free and improvement of symptoms, whichever is longer, per CDC guidelines.
  - Day 1 is date of testing if asymptomatic
  - Day 1 is date of onset of symptoms if symptomatic
- If the patient develops new or worsening symptoms consistent with COVID 19 since their positive test, no retesting is needed, but Day 1 of infection should be changed to coincide with onset of new symptoms.

**Unknown status requiring a Stat cesarean birth** (untested within last 48 hours) – place in severe respiratory isolation and order COVID PCR, rapid test when able.
Follow up after discharge – Refer to Women's and Infants Services Algorithm on Insite (page 3) to see guidelines for care of the newborn born to women who test positive for Covid-19. Instruct asymptomatic women to continue recommended interactions with newborn detailed on the algorithm for 10 days after the positive test. Follow the Provider Guidelines for the Discontinuation of Severe Respiratory Precautions for Patients with COVID-19 for guidance on when to stop following recommended interactions if the patient develops symptoms.