

# COVID-19 Testing at the Hospital for Delivery – April 20, 2020 1809

Spectrum Health contact: Charmaine Kyle

The COVID-19 (coronavirus) outbreak has changed our lives in many ways. The virus spreads very easily, and many people are getting infected. Most people who get infected do fine, but some get very sick.

A person can have the virus without knowing it. After being infected with coronavirus, it takes a few days before symptoms such as a cough or fever show up. Some people never show symptoms. These people can still spread the disease to other people.

We want to keep patients, their families, and our health care workers safe. We want to reduce the spread of the virus in our communities.

## **When you come to the hospital for delivery, we will test you for COVID-19, the coronavirus.**

- If you test **NEGATIVE**, no further testing is required, unless you show new symptoms during your hospital stay.
- If you test **POSITIVE**, we will take these steps to keep you and your family safe:
- Your partner may stay with you but must wear a mask always and may not leave your room.
- When your baby is born, we may recommend that you and your newborn separate. This is to lower the chance that your baby gets infected with coronavirus. Your care team will have a discussion with you and you will be involved in this decision. If you choose to separate, you will help choose a friend or family member to stay with your newborn.
- We believe breastfeeding is healthy for moms and newborns. If breastfeeding is your preferred method of feeding, we will support you in feeding your newborn with breastmilk.
- We believe universal testing is the best way to keep you, your family, and our community safe. We are here to answer any questions you might have.