



Coronavirus Testing FAQs

University of Rochester Department of OBGYN



Why Am I Getting Tested?

COVID-19 testing is performed as a standard part of your admission to the hospital. Testing for COVID-19 will let you and your health care team know if you currently have the virus, even if you do not have symptoms. This information is important in keeping you, your new baby, and the people you live with safe.



What if I Don't Deliver While I am Here This Time?

We will test you every time you come and go from the hospital and require readmission. This helps keep you, the other patients, and our team safe.



What if My Test is Positive?

If you test positive, you will be monitored for symptoms (fever, sore throat, shortness of breath, etc.) both while you are in the hospital and after you go home. If you test positive on pre-admission testing for a scheduled cesarean or induction of labor, and it is safe to do so, we may adjust your scheduled delivery date. Because you can spread the infection to anyone in the same room with you, it would be safest to send your support person home. If your support person chooses to stay with you, they will need to wear a mask at all times and will not be able to leave the room.

To optimize bonding and establish breastfeeding, we encourage you to keep your infant in the room with you. Current evidence suggests that the risk of a newborn getting COVID-19 from their parent(s) is low, especially when they use appropriate precautions before and during care of the newborn, such as wearing a mask and practicing hand hygiene. We ask that you do not use the newborn nursery to decrease the chance of spreading the infection to other infants and staff. You and your support person will not be able to leave your room until it is time to go home.

If your baby needs to go to the NICU (Neonatal intensive care unit) or nursery for care or testing, you and anyone that has been exposed to you will not be allowed to visit until completion of full quarantine/treatment (the length of which can vary depending on symptoms and exposures).



What if My Test is Negative?

A negative test means you are not shedding (at risk of spreading) the virus now. It does not mean that you did not have the virus before or that you will not get the virus at some point in the future. If at any time you develop fever, sore throat, shortness of breath or other symptoms, you will be tested again.



What Should We Do After We Go Home?

If you test positive for COVID-19, you can spread the virus to others. To decrease the chance of spreading the infection, we recommend that you quarantine (stay home with no outside contacts) for at least 14 days AND until any symptoms have completely resolved for 72 hours (3 days). You SHOULD NOT go out of your home. This includes going to the grocery store and having visitors over. We recommend that you wear masks and wash your hands carefully before and after caring for the baby for about 2 weeks.