



## Prenatal COVID Testing

**WHY?** Your Obstetrical team has decided to test all of their expectant patients near the end of their pregnancy for COVID-19. COVID-19 puts a strain on patients, families, staff and hospital equipment. By testing you for this, more concrete plans for delivery can be put in place.

**WHEN?** If you are scheduled for an induction or Cesarean delivery, your provider will have you tested 72 hours before so that results will be back in time for your hospital admission. All other expectant moms will be tested at their 39 week appointment.

**HOW?** Testing consists of a sterile swab being placed in either your nose or mouth. Your care team will call you with the results when they are received, generally between 48-72 hours.

**WHAT TO DO?** After being swabbed, you should go home and self-isolate. Now is **not** the time to run all of your errands or meet with friends or family. You need to limit contact with others as they may not know they are infectious with COVID. Some infected people do not have any symptoms so we want to ensure the safety of yourself, your baby and our staff at this exciting time for your family.

Everyone should practice good handwashing techniques and keep contact with others to a minimum.

When you arrive at the hospital for your delivery, both you and your one support person will be screened and provided with a mask to wear if you do not have one. If your support person screens positive, a different support person will need to be chosen. We ask that your support person remain with you for the majority of your stay. We ask this so contact with potentially infectious people is decreased.

Staff will be wearing masks, goggles or face shields and gloves when caring for you. We ask that you wear your mask when up walking in the halls or when staff enters your room.

Should your test come back as positive, we have plans in place to safely care for you, your baby and our staff. Having this knowledge in advance simply makes it a smoother transition for all.

*We look forward to caring for you during this joyous occasion in your family's life!*

