

HURLEY MEDICAL CENTER CORONAVIRUS RESPONSE



Pregnancy is an exciting and nervous time in the best of times, the current Coronavirus (COVID-19) Pandemic is a cause of increased anxiety for many expecting parents and their families.

Hurley Medical Center is committed to providing a safe environment by following the most current recommendations. Please keep in mind that we are constantly learning and modifying recommendations based on CDC and ACOG (American College of Obstetrics and Gynecology) guidelines.

PRENATAL CARE

In-person visits may be less frequent than before the Pandemic to reduce your potential exposure to COVID-19. You may have a Telehealth visit with your provider, over the phone or computer, if you don't need an examination to limit exposure.

At each prenatal visit, you'll be asked if you have any COVID-19 symptoms, such as:

- Fever
- Cough
- Shortness of breath or difficulty breathing
- Chills
- Repeated shaking with chills
- Muscle pain
- Sore throat
- New loss of taste or smell

If you screen positive for symptoms, you may be sent for virus testing.

<https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/symptoms-testing/symptoms.html>

WHEN TO SEEK MEDICAL ATTENTION

If you develop any of these emergency warning signs* for COVID-19 get medical attention immediately:

- Trouble breathing
- Persistent pain or pressure in the chest
- New confusion or inability to arouse
- Bluish lips or face

**This list is not all of the signs and symptoms for COVID-19. Please consult your medical provider for any other symptoms that are severe or concerning to you.*

CALL 911 IF YOU HAVE A MEDICAL EMERGENCY

Notify the operator that you have, or think you might have, COVID-19. If possible, put on a cloth face covering before medical help arrives.

LABOR & DELIVERY

Our Labor & Delivery policies have changed in an effort to provide a safe environment for all patients and medical personnel.

- Hurley has a dedicated, isolation unit within Labor & Delivery for patients known to have COVID-19 and those who have symptoms and are awaiting test results (a Patient Under Investigation or PUI).
- All patients and their support person will be screened for COVID-19 symptoms before being allowed into Labor & Delivery.
- All patients and visitors are required to wear a mask (provided by Hurley) while in the hospital.
- Per CDC recommendations, we are limiting all Labor patients to one visitor/support person.
- This must be the same person throughout the patient's hospitalization.
- If a pregnant patient on Labor & Delivery requires testing for COVID, that test is done in our lab with results in less than 24 hours.

If you had a positive COVID-19 test in the last 60 days or have COVID-19 symptoms, please call 810.262.9261 before you get to the hospital if possible.

FOR MORE INFORMATION, PLEASE CALL: 810.262.9261

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MOTHER-TO-CHILD TRANSMISSION

- **Mother-to-child transmission of coronavirus during pregnancy and delivery is unlikely, but after birth a newborn is susceptible to person-to-person spread.**
- A very small number of babies have tested positive for the virus shortly after birth. However, it is unknown if these babies got the virus before or after birth.
- The virus has not been detected in amniotic fluid, breastmilk, or other maternal samples.

POSTPARTUM

- Mothers with COVID-19 are advised to stay in a different room than their baby to reduce the risk of spread to the baby. Per CDC **“Mother-to-child transmission of coronavirus during pregnancy is unlikely, but after birth a newborn is susceptible to person-to-person spread.”**
- A waiver is available for those parents who, knowing that risk to the newborn is unknown, choose to have the baby room with the mother. 6 feet of separation between the mother and baby is still recommended in this case and the mother should wear a mask while the baby is in the room.
- Babies of mothers who are known to have COVID-19, or are currently awaiting COVID-19 test results, will not be allowed into the newborn nursery.

BREASTFEEDING IF YOU HAVE COVID-19

- **Breast milk provides protection against many illnesses** and is the best source of nutrition for most infants.
- You, along with your family and healthcare providers, should decide whether and how to start or continue breastfeeding
- **In limited studies, COVID-19 has not been detected in breast milk;** however we do not know for sure whether mothers with COVID-19 can spread the virus through breast milk.
- **If you are sick and choose to direct breastfeed:**
 - Wear a facemask
 - Wash your hands before each feeding
- **If the you are sick and choose to express breast milk:**
 - Express breast milk to start and keep your milk supply going.
 - A dedicated breast pump should be provided.
 - Wash hands before touching any pump or bottle parts and before expressing breast milk.
 - Follow recommendations for proper pump cleaning after each use, cleaning all parts that come into contact with breast milk.
 - If possible, have someone who is well feed the expressed breast milk to the infant.

OTHER RESOURCES ON COVID-19 FOR WOMEN & PREGNANT PATIENTS:

- American College of Obstetricians and Gynecologists
- Centers for Disease Control and Prevention
- Society for Maternal Fetal Medicine (SMFM),
FAQ on coronavirus in pregnancy:
<https://www.smfm.org/covid19>

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