

COVID-19 Information for Expectant Parents

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Expectant Parents: COVID-19 FAQ's



Location:

The Maternal Child/Women's Health Department is on the second level of the hospital, units 2600 and 2800.

Contact:

519-421-4210

While the birth of a child is an exciting time, we understand the current COVID-19 pandemic has caused some uncertainty. We want to reassure soon-to-be parents that a great deal of planning has gone into ensuring that we are prepared and ready to provide safe, high quality care for mothers and babies.

Below are answers to frequently asked questions relating to COVID-19. As we receive more questions to the Maternal Child/Women's Health Unit, this page will be updated.

1) How has the process changed leading up to childbirth?

You will not be able to bring your partner/support person to the hospital with you for appointments or triage visits leading up to childbirth (e.g. nonstress test, ultrasound by obstetrician, question/query related to labour).

At home, you will fill out a pre-registration package that you receive from your health care provider. Please read your pre-registration package again before your due date and update any information as required. You will need to bring this paperwork in with you if you come in for an assessment or when you come to the hospital in labour. In the package, you will find a list of necessary items to bring to hospital and information on when you should come to the hospital to be assessed, regarding signs of labour or other pregnancy concerns.

Please feel free to call the unit at 519-421-4210 if you have any concerns about the pre-registration process or if you feel you should come in to be assessed.

2) Who is allowed to be with me during childbirth?

You are allowed one (1) designated partner/support person. **Partner/support person for moms in labour must wait outside the hospital until notified by MCWH that they are permitted to enter.** Your partner/support person must pass screening at the main entrance to be permitted.

Upon entry, you and your partner/support person will be provided with a mask and asked to perform hand hygiene before proceeding to the Maternal Child/Women's Health Unit. Upon admission, your partner/support person will get a blue wristband that will permit them in and out privileges at the hospital. They will need to pass screening upon re-entry. We encourage you to plan ahead and pack everything you need to limit the number of times your partner/support person is leaving the hospital.

Please note: if a partner/support person has travelled outside of Canada in the past 14 days they will not be permitted. Please plan accordingly.

3) Is my midwife allowed, as well as my partner/support person?

Yes, whether you have a doctor or midwife, they are your health care provider and you are still allowed 1 designated partner/support person with you. However, doulas are not permitted at this time.

4) How long is my partner/support person allowed to stay, and can they switch with someone else (e.g. my mom)?

You are allowed 1 designated partner/support person and they are not allowed to switch out. They can stay with you until you and the baby are discharged.

5) What happens if I am sick?

You will be cared for in an isolation room. Staff will wear additional personal protective equipment if you are suspect or test positive for COVID-19. **You r partner/support person will not be permitted to stay with you in the hospital.**

6) What is the protocol for C-sections?

During a C-section, your designated partner/support person may be in the OR with you, as long as you are not suspect or test positive for COVID-19 **and you do not need a general anesthetic.**

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