

MEMO

Cork University Maternity Hospital

To: All staff CUMH
From: Professor John R. Higgins, Clinical Director CUMH
Date: 06 March 2020
Re: COVID-19 2b

If a patient presents with Covid-19 symptoms please follow the algorithm and contact the Bed Manager on duty.

Dear colleagues,

Following the confirmed cases of Covid-19 in CUH we have the following updates to the delivery of care, education and staff wellbeing in CUMH:

Access

- Movement between CUH and CUMH is to be restricted for essential staff/patient movement through the ground floor only.
- Entrance and exit for CUMH staff is through the main door to CUMH.
- Please do not use the ambulance entrance on the ground floor.
- We ask all staff to cooperate with hospital security at this time.

Catering

- In keeping with restricting contact with CUH we ask staff to not go to the CUH canteen or CUH cafes.
- Coffeedoc will be open and Le Cheile is available to all staff – we recommend staff to bring

their own lunch/refreshments etc.

Gynaecology and Antenatal Clinics: appointments may be moved to outreach centres in Cork. Patients will be contacted directly to inform them of any change to their appointment. Any patient not contacted is to present as indicated on original appointment letter.

Gynaecology Theatre: Current elective procedures will continue as scheduled and will be assessed on a day-by-day basis.

Visiting restrictions: To minimise the potential for spread of infection

- **Inpatients:** Women and infant inpatients are allowed one nominated visitor only. The inpatient, on admission, will be asked at reception for their nominated visitor. Ward managers to ensure list is up to date and with security.
- **Outpatients:** Women are asked, where possible, not to bring partners/family members/children to their appointments
- **NICU:** Both parents of infants in the NICU are allowed visit.

Hygiene: We ask you to continue to maintain the highest possible of standards with regards to hand washing, scrubs and uniforms. Please change into your uniform when you arrive into the hospital at the start of your shift and orange bags for laundry (60 degree wash advised) will be provided in changing rooms to take uniforms home.

Patient queries re Covid-19 can contact main reception on 021 492 0500 and will be redirected from there.

Guidelines: The HPSC guideline for management of suspected COVID19 patients in Maternity Hospital settings are online or on the shared folder through management.

Education: Medical students have been relocated to UCC main campus for teaching at present. Midwifery students on placement will continue in CUMH as normal. Non-clinical placements will be moved offsite. Nursing students in CUH have been asked to not present for placement in CUMH.

Communication: We will endeavor to keep you updated on the situation. Please monitor email updates, signage around the hospital, [website](#) and [twitter](#).

We thank you as always for your continued cooperation as we monitor the situation.



Regards,



John R. Higgins

***Professor of Obstetrics and Gynaecology
Clinical Director Ireland South Women & Infants Directorate
South/Southwest Hospital Group***

