

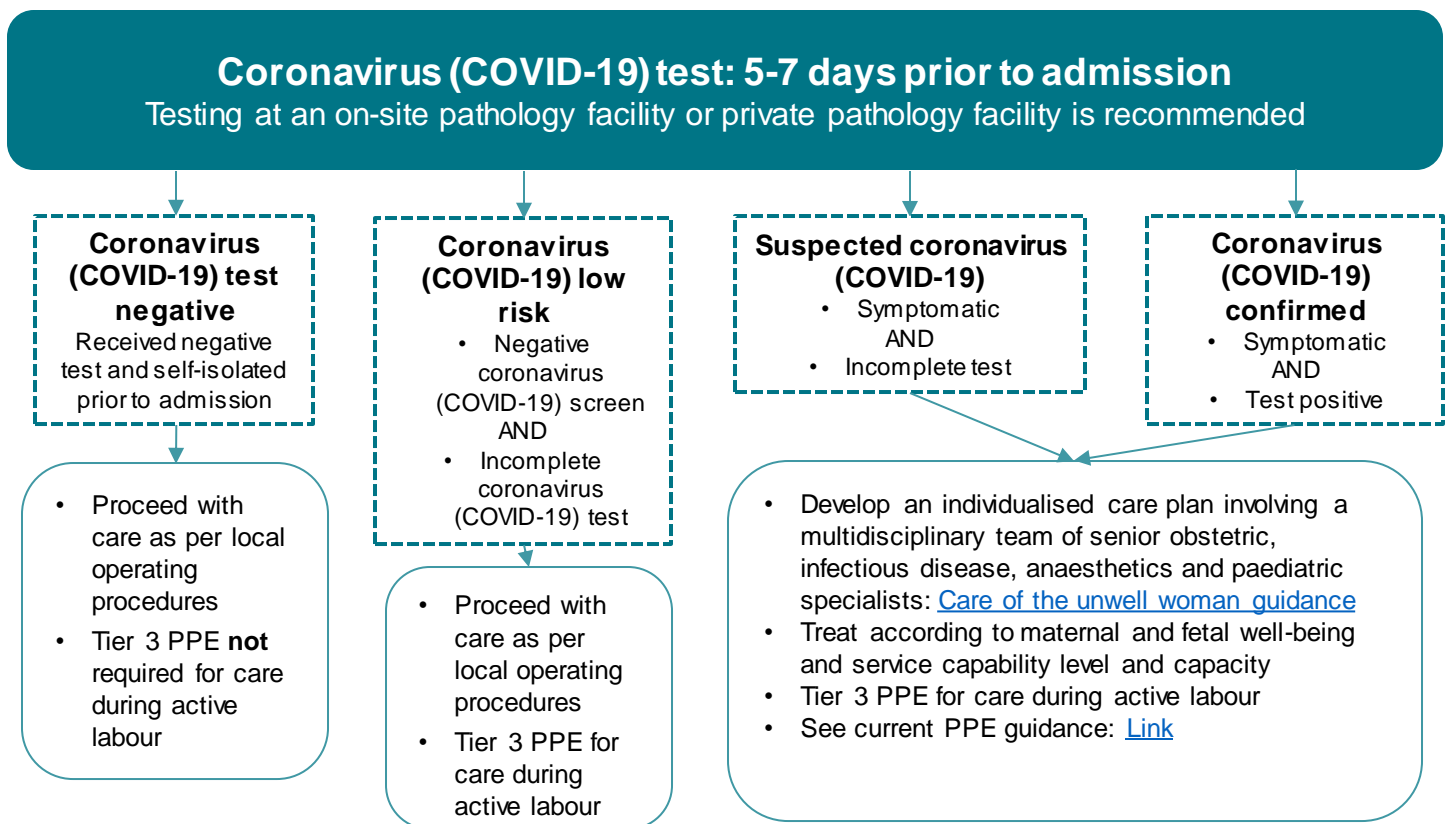
Coronavirus (COVID-19) testing for women booked to give birth in Victorian maternity services

Procedure	Should a woman be offered a coronavirus (COVID-19) test?
Elective caesarean section with planned general anaesthetic	Yes, see the flow chart attached for more information on the testing process and follow-up.
Elective caesarean section with planned spinal block or epidural	No, unless they screen positive to epidemiological and/or clinical risk factors .
Antenatal admission or other elective procedures	No, unless they screen positive to epidemiological and/or clinical risk factors .
Emergency caesarean or other emergency procedures	<p>Emergency caesarean sections should not be delayed while waiting for a coronavirus (COVID-19) test result.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Screens positive to epidemiological and/or clinical risk factors? Test for coronavirus (COVID-19) and treat as suspected coronavirus (COVID-19). • No epidemiological and clinical risk factors? Do not test, treat as coronavirus (COVID-19) negative.
Induction of labour	No, unless they screen positive to epidemiological and/or clinical risk factors .
Spontaneous labour anticipated	No, unless they screen positive to epidemiological and/or clinical risk factors .

- Health services may modify their testing practices based on the local situations and issues being experienced.
- Partners/support people should only be tested if accompanying a positive or suspected coronavirus (COVID-19) woman or if they are showing symptoms.
- The personal protective equipment (PPE) matrix should be followed to ensure health care workers are protected: www.dhhs.vic.gov.au/coronavirus-covid-19-ppe-maternity-and-neonatal-services-word
- Visit www.dhhs.vic.gov.au/assessment-and-testing-criteria-coronavirus-covid-19 to access information on the epidemiological and/or clinical risk factors.

Coronavirus (COVID-19) testing prior to admission to hospital

- This flow chart is a guide for if coronavirus (COVID-19) testing is undertaken prior to a women being admitted to hospital.
- Testing should only be undertaken as indicated in the table above.



**For support with retrieval/transfer:
Call PIPER 1300 137 650**

- Coronavirus (COVID-19) positive alone is not an indication to transfer
- Treat according to maternal and fetal wellbeing and within service capability and capacity
- **If a woman or baby needs to be transferred, they do not need to be tested prior to transport occurring**

Further coronavirus (COVID-19) advice

- Infection control and physical distancing guidance: [Found here](#)
- PPE guidance: [Found here](#)
- Maternity and Neonatal care guidance: [Found here](#)
- Partners/support people guidance: [Found here](#)
- Visitor guidance: [Found here](#)
- Neonatal care flowchart: [Found here](#)

Further information

- <https://www.health.gov.au/resources/collections/novel-coronavirus-2019-ncov-resources#home-isolation-and-care>
- <https://www.rcog.org.uk/en/guidelines-research-services/guidelines/coronavirus-pregnancy/>
- <https://www.dhhs.vic.gov.au/coronavirus>
- www.dhhs.vic.gov.au/health-services-and-general-practitioners-coronavirus-disease-covid-19
- <https://www.who.int/emergencies/diseases/novel-coronavirus-2019>