

What happens when I go home?

If you test positive for coronavirus when you go home, please check the Government website for more information:

<https://www.gov.uk/coronavirus>

It's important to monitor your symptoms. If these worsen, please visit NHS 111 online, or call NHS 111.

If you have concerns regarding your pregnancy, baby, or postnatal care, please call the Emergency Midwife on 01623 655722, or contact your GP.

Further sources of information

NHS Choices: www.nhs.uk/conditions

Our website: www.sfh-tr.nhs.uk

Patient Experience Team (PET)

PET is available to help with any of your compliments, concerns or complaints, and will ensure a prompt and efficient service.

King's Mill Hospital: 01623 672222

Newark Hospital: 01636 685692

Email: sfh-tr.PET@nhs.net

If you would like this information in an alternative format, for example large print or easy read, or if you need help with communicating with us, for example because you use British Sign Language, please let us know. You can call the Patient Experience Team on 01623 672222 or email sfh-tr.PET@nhs.net.

This document is intended for information purposes only and should not replace advice that your relevant health professional would give you. External websites may be referred to in specific cases. Any external websites are provided for your information and convenience. We cannot accept responsibility for the information found on them. If you require a full list of references (if relevant) for this leaflet, please email sfh-tr.patientinformation@nhs.net or telephone 01623 622515, extension 6927.

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INFORMATION FOR PATIENTS

Coronavirus (COVID-19) and your Caesarean section



What to expect during your stay and how to keep safe

Will I need to have a coronavirus test?

Prior to attending hospital for your elective Caesarean section, you will need to have a coronavirus test. It is important we know if you have coronavirus, so we can take extra precautions during your stay to protect you, your family, other patients, and healthcare professionals.

This test will either be done during your preoperative appointment, or at an additional appointment that will be made for you.

Following the test it is vital you, and others in your household, isolate until after your surgery.

The test involves taking a swab from the back of your throat and inside of your nose, using a cotton bud. The test may be slightly uncomfortable and usually lasts 30-60 seconds.

When will I get the results?

It can take up to 48 hours to get the results, so normally you will receive your result on the day of your Caesarean. However, if the result is positive, you may receive a phone call earlier.

Regardless of your result, you and your birth partner will be required to wear a mask during your stay. You will both need to stay in your room, and will not be able to leave the ward. We advise birth partners to bring their own food and drink. If you are transferred to the maternity ward postnatally, visiting will be restricted to 1 hour each day for your birth partner.

Your baby will remain with you at all times, and you will be encouraged to continue caring for your baby as normal. You should try to avoid coughing or sneezing on your baby. It is not essential to wear a mask around your baby, and your baby should **never** wear a mask.

What will happen if my result is positive?

We will not routinely cancel or rearrange your Caesarean if you have a positive coronavirus test. However, if your consultant feels it's safer to postpone your surgery, they will discuss this with you, and your Caesarean could be moved to another date.

You will need to inform the Sherwood Birthing Unit when you arrive at the hospital, as you will be escorted to your room via an alternative entrance.

You will be isolated in your own room on the Sherwood Birthing Unit, where you will stay until you are discharged home.

Your birth partner will be able to attend hospital with you for support, but will **not** be able to come into theatre.

You must still attend hospital as planned, and continue to use the Emergency Midwife number on **01623 655722** for any concerns you may have.

