

Table 2: Advice for community-based midwives caring for women who have confirmed or suspected COVID-19

| <p>➤ In all cases when a woman is in self-isolation for confirmed COVID-19, register the woman with the DHB for coordinated care and support.</p> <p>➤ The DHB is responsible for supplying PPE and education on its use to community-based midwives as indicated below.</p> | | | |
|--|---|---|--|
| Less than 36w6d | Greater than 37w0d | Labour and birth | Postnatal |
| <i>Mild symptoms</i> | <i>Mild symptoms</i> | <i>Mild symptoms</i> | <i>Mild symptoms</i> |
| Reschedule routine antenatal visits until after the woman has been deemed no longer a public health risk by the Public Health Unit. If the woman requires a visit, ensure she wears a surgical face mask and the midwife wears full PPE. | Care to remain with midwife in the community. During midwifery visits the woman wears a surgical face mask and the midwife wears full PPE. | Care transferred to DHB maternity service for labour and birth care (follow established DHB pandemic protocols). The community-based midwife does not attend the labour and birth but remains available to provide care to other women in the community. | Home visits according to clinical need, specifically but not limited to: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Newborn metabolic screen ✓ Breastfeeding support ✓ Full top-to-toe clinical baby examination and weight within 7 days |
| Care plan developed in collaboration with the multi-disciplinary DHB team. | Care plan developed in collaboration with the multi-disciplinary DHB team. | | Strongly encourage the woman to continue breastfeeding her newborn baby. |
| Phone and video consultations for time specific pregnancy education and information. | Phone and video consultations for time specific pregnancy education and information | | The woman should wear a surgical face mask while breastfeeding and having skin to skin. |
| Minimise time spent undertaking physical assessment if an antenatal visit is required. | Minimise time spent undertaking physical assessment | | During midwifery visits the woman wears a surgical face mask and the midwife wears full PPE. |
| Provide advice on basic hygiene measures (refer to Ministry of Health website). | Provide advice on basic hygiene measures (refer to Ministry of Health website). | | Provide postnatal care and parenting advice over the phone as much as possible. |
| Advise women to inform their midwife if the situation changes, for example if the woman or a family member becomes more unwell. | Advise the woman to inform midwife if situation changes | | Provide advice on basic hygiene measures (refer to Ministry of Health website). |
| <i>Moderate or severe symptoms</i> | <i>Moderate or severe symptoms</i> | <i>Moderate or severe symptoms</i> | <i>Moderate or severe symptoms</i> |
| Advise woman to call Healthline, follow advice and inform midwife of advice | Advise woman to call Healthline, follow advice and inform midwife of advice | Care transferred to DHB maternity service for labour and birth care (follow established DHB pandemic protocols). The community-based midwife does not attend the labour and birth but remains available to provide care to other women in the community. | DHB postnatal care in a secondary / tertiary maternity hospital. |
| Reschedule antenatal visit until after the woman has been released from isolation. | Reschedule antenatal visit until after the woman has been released form isolation. | | Care plan developed collaboratively between DHB, community-based midwife and the woman. |
| If hospitalised, care transferred to DHB maternity services. | If hospitalised, care transferred to DHB maternity services | | |