COVID-19 Obstetric Sepsis

**For ALL mothers suspected/confirmed COVID-19
who fulfil ANY Sepsis Risk Assessment criteria (green box)**

Please take the following samples and order tests via WCP

Blood tests (approx. 30 ml)

- **1 purple vacutainer** - FBC
- **1 blue vacutainer** - Coagulation & D dimer
- **2 yellow vacutainers** - Ferritin, U&E, CRP, CK, Troponin, LDH, Amylase, LFT, Bone profile, Mg, Procalcitonin
- **1 blood gas** - arterial or venous sample - Lactate
- *Don't forget the **blood cultures**…*

Request lab tests using 'CAV Obstetrics COIVD sepsis request set'

Microbiological tests

- **1 set of Blood Cultures**

Request using 'Microbial investigation (blood)'

- **COVID-19 throat swab**

Request using 'Virology – COVID (Throat swab)'

Consider additional microbiological samples

- Urine for MC&S
- Urine for respiratory antigens
- Breast swabs and/or breast milk
- Placental swabs
- High vaginal swabs
- Respiratory throat swab
- Stool samples
- Other tissue etc

Consider Additional Investigations

CXR, ECG, CT chest, ECHO

Interpretation of additional blood tests for suspected COVID-19 obstetric sepsis

NB: Data is limited in the obstetric population and markers are extrapolated from non-pregnant studies. Trends may be more important than isolated results.

Test	Result
FBC	Lymphopenia and thrombocytopenia have been associated with increased risk of severe disease and may be useful as clinical indicators for monitoring disease progression.[1,2,3,4]
Coagulation incl. D dimer	Elevated D-dimer and prolonged prothrombin time may be markers of progression and severity of disease.[1,2,5,10] Local interpretation of D dimer is complicated by a lack of normal range for pregnancy and therefore this index should only be used to monitor disease progression.
Ferritin	May indicate development of cytokine release syndrome.[6,11]
U&E	May observe renal impairment.[1,2]
CRP	Increases at the initial stage of disease in patients with severe illness; therefore, it may be useful in identifying patients who might become severely ill.[1,2,7]
CK	Elevated creatine kinase has been reported in 13% to 33% of patients.[1,2,8]
Troponin	Other cardiac markers may also be elevated and are associated with severe disease.[1,8]
LDH	Elevated lactate dehydrogenase has been reported in 73% to 76% of patients.[1,2,9]
Amylase	Exclude pancreatitis.
LFT	Elevated transaminases, reduced albumin may be seen.[1,2]
Bone profile	
Magnesium	Optimise Mg levels.
Procalcitonin	May be elevated in bacterial infection.[1,2]

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