



BORN Ontario Data Collection on COVID-19

Sent on behalf of Lise Bisnaire, Executive Director, BORN Ontario

BORN Ontario has been receiving a lot of questions regarding data collection on COVID-19. To respond to the urgent public health crisis, BORN Ontario will soon be initiating data collection for any cases of COVID-19 infected pregnant individuals admitted to Ontario hospitals between March 1, 2020 and March 1, 2021 (or until the pandemic is declared over and 40 weeks pass to allow collection from newly pregnant individuals who will continue their pregnancy). These data are urgently needed to provide credible information to facilitate and improve care and to help guide decision making. Because about 40% of all births in Canada each year occur in Ontario, information collected here can make an important contribution to national knowledge on this issue. We are working out the technicalities of the new data collection and will likely be in touch to amend our data sharing agreements with your sites.

Unfortunately, we are unable to change the current BORN Information System in a timely manner to collect this data. Therefore, we will be asking hospitals to either extract data from their EMR systems, or complete a manual data collection process on the small number of cases we expect. BORN Ontario will only ask care providers for a minimum of extra data specifically related to the illness since the data already provided in the BORN Ontario registry can be linked to ascertain pregnancy/birth/newborn outcomes. We will not ask for any duplication, other than some identifiers needed for linking to the BORN Information System data already routinely collected. **We will provide data collection tools, data transfer instructions and webinar training sessions. Webinars will be held this Thursday (April 2nd) and Monday (April 6th) at noon. Please stay tuned for sign-in details.** Timely entry of regular BORN data also remains critical so we have up-to-date information on outcomes for COVID-19 positive individuals.

There are also national data collection processes occurring. BORN will try and contribute the Ontario maternal cases to this pan-Canadian project but we are unsure yet exactly how this will occur. We are liaising with these groups to ensure the data we collect is consistent with the rest of Canada. We don't believe there is any need to do duplicate data collection when BORN already has the pregnancy birth information for these cases. We will try and have more information about this as soon as possible.

If you require more information, please reach out through our new address dedicated to this initiative: covid@bornontario.ca

Additionally, our Provincial Engagement Team members will be reaching out to their individual hospitals to help once a firm process of data collection is identified. **Please feel free to share this with anyone in your site who may be interested in the information.**

Thanks for your support and concern about collecting quality data through the Registry!