

Sent: May 1, 2020 4:03 PM

Subject: BORN COVID-19 Data Collection Update

Good afternoon,

The BORN team wants to update you on a slight change to the COVID-19 data collection. We have been receiving questions from sites about submitting suspected or probable cases as opposed to just laboratory confirmed positive cases. We have been recently notified by some sites that it is likely that **a small number of infected individuals are testing negative** (either due to undetectable viral load, poorly executed swabs, or false negatives). This is consistent with the latest evidence. In order to ensure we don't miss these potentially positive cases, we ask that you **please use your best clinical judgement on deciding whether to include suspected or probable cases, even if the test is negative.**

We suggest including probable/suspected cases (even if the test is negative) when there are:

- highly suspicious clinical signs/symptoms (fever AND at least one other sign/symptom of respiratory disease, e.g., cough, shortness of breath, X-ray findings)
- other signs/symptoms AND the pregnant individual has been in close contact with a probable or confirmed COVID-19 case in the last 14 days prior to symptom onset

If you have any cases from previous weeks that tested negative but you have a strong reason to suspect it was a false negative, please submit them to BORN.

We are updating our FAQs and Case Report form to include this change. We hope to have them posted on our website (<https://www.bornontario.ca/en/news/born-data-collection-on-covid-19.aspx>) by Monday. Please check back frequently as we update the forms as new information/practices occur.

Thanks again for participating in the BORN COVID-19 Data Collection Strategy. Please feel free to reach out if you have questions.

BORN Ontario Team