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Subject: May 1st BORN COVID-19 Update for Network Partners

Hello Everyone: Just wanted to update you on a few of BORN's COVID-19 initiatives as we transition into May.

1. Case Collection Form

We are adding a box to the front page of the data collection form to clarify the need to submit probable cases in addition to the positive cases. We hope to have the new form generated and posted tomorrow or Monday at the latest. The new text will read:

Update re Data Collection (May 1, 2020):

BORN has received questions about submitting suspected or probable cases. Because a small number of infected individuals test negative (either due to undetectable viral load, poorly executed swabs, or false negatives), 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 symptom of respiratory disease, e.g., cough, shortness of breath, X-ray findings)
- other symptoms but the woman has been in close contact with an infected individual

We will add this to the Q&A document as well, but **request that you share this with your network colleagues**. Our coordinator group will also help to spread the message and we will email the submitter list we have with this clarification.

2. Case Numbers

We have about 13 case reports submitted (maybe 11 valid ones). However, you may recall we added a double check by putting a COVID-19 positive flag on the HBHC screening tool in the BORN Information System. There are considerably more potential cases identified here. We are working on validating these cases and can contact the hospitals where we suspect there are cases not yet entered. We may call on you to assist us in ensuring we can recruit those hospitals if we run into any issues.

3. **Updating the OMama App**

We will be updating the OMama app with the new provincial maternal-newborn COVID-19 guidelines as soon as they are issued.

4. **Postpartum Data Collection**

We continue to seek a data collection method for the early weeks after birth to determine if the baby of a COVID-19 positive mother has been ill or required any care. Several options are being explored and we will get back to you as soon as a viable solution is arranged.

5. **Prenatal Screening Ontario**

PSO has posted a new video explaining some of the changes in prenatal screening in Ontario. It can be accessed

here: https://prenatalscreeningontario.ca/en/ps0/What_you_Need_to_Know_About_COVID-19_and_Pregnancy.aspx#COVID-19-and-Prenatal-Screening

Thanks for your ongoing support of all this work. Please feel free to forward to others who may want this information.

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