

Appendix 1 Managing Communicable Diseases Screening Tests in Late Bookers

Late bookers are women who present for the first time on or after 24 weeks pregnancy. This is the stage at which the baby is potentially viable if early labour occurred.

The results of the communicable disease screening tests could affect the management at or after delivery, therefore **all communicable disease screening test results** for a woman should be **known prior to delivery and certainly before discharge**.

If a woman presents to maternity services as a late booker i.e. on or after 24 weeks it is important to ensure that screening has been offered and results are received:

1) The woman presents to the antenatal clinic, and there is no immediate risk of delivery:

- Seek informed consent for screening (HIV, Syphilis, hepatitis B, rubella)
- Fill **one 9ml purple topped EDTA bottle** and complete a virology request form, clearly indicating which tests (HIV, Rubella, Syphilis hepatitis B) are to be carried out. Even if a woman does not consent to all four tests, please fill one 9ml purple topped EDTA bottle. Do not send two 5ml bottles, or other combinations to make up to 9 ml, the machines in the lab won't accept them and the sample will not be processed.
- Ensure tests are recorded on PNBS
- Mark the sample as URGENT and telephone the West of Scotland Specialist Virology Centre to let them know it is in the system. **(Tel 0141 201 8722)**
- Send the sample to the virus lab, via normal routine processes
- Ensure that the name and contact details of the person and a deputy who will be responsible for any positive results are clearly appended
- Note that to view a result on portal a CHI number is essential

2) The woman presents to maternity assessment i.e. in pain, bleeding etc therefore the risk of delivery is high:

- Seek informed consent for screening (HIV, Syphilis, hepatitis B, rubella)
- Fill **one 9ml purple topped EDTA bottle** and complete a virology request form, clearly indicating which tests (HIV, Rubella, Syphilis hepatitis B) are to be carried out.

- Please fill one 9ml bottle regardless of how many tests are requested. Sending multiple 5 ml tubes is not acceptable and the sample will not be processed.
- Ensure tests are recorded on PNBS at next opportunity
- Mark the sample as 'URGENT'.
- **In hours** (i.e. 9.00 – 17.00 Monday – Friday and 9.00 – 12.30 Saturday), telephone the **Laboratory (Tel 0141 201 8722)** and
 - explain that an urgent sample is being sent
 - discuss the travel arrangements
 - arrange when and to whom the results will be communicated. You must provide the laboratory with adequate contact details to include the name and preferably two contact numbers of the main results recipient and a deputy.
- **Out of hours** you must telephone the on-call virologist via the Switchboard 0141 211 3000 and discuss the above.
- If the timing of the local transport systems does not facilitate urgent transfer order a taxi to ensure the sample reaches the laboratory. (see NHSGGC Amended Protocol Ordering and Use of Taxis and Courriers October 2011) http://www.staffnet.ggc.scot.nhs.uk/Corporate%20Services/Communications/Briefs/Documents/amended%20taxi%20protocol%20-%20phase%201_acute%20services.pdf
- In normal hours the lab is able to process and produce results within 1-2 hours of receipt. Note that reactive samples will need to be confirmed on the next day.
- Note that to view a result on portal a CHI number is essential

3) The woman presents in labour:

It is the responsibility of the labour ward staff to ensure that virology screening tests are offered and results received. Even intrapartum diagnosis can significantly, positively modify neonatal outcome therefore it is important to ensure women are offered screening tests no matter how late.

It is essential that you telephone the virology lab as soon as possible to discuss emergency testing of the woman.

- Seek informed consent for screening (HIV, Syphilis, hepatitis B, rubella)
- Fill **one 9ml purple topped EDTA bottle** and complete a virology request form, clearly indicating which tests (HIV, Rubella, Syphilis hepatitis B) are to be carried out.

- Please fill one 9ml bottle regardless of how many tests are requested. Sending multiple 5 ml tubes is not acceptable and the sample will not be processed.
- Mark the sample as 'URGENT'.
- **In hours** (i.e. 9.00 – 17.00 Monday – Friday and 9.00 – 12.30 Saturday), telephone the **Laboratory (Tel 0141 201 8722)** and
 - explain that an urgent sample is being sent
 - discuss the travel arrangements
 - arrange when and to whom the results will be communicated. You must provide the laboratory with adequate contact details to include the name and preferably two contact numbers of the main results recipient and a deputy.
- **Out of hours** you must telephone the on-call virologist via the Switchboard 0141 211 3000 and discuss the above.
- Order a taxi to ensure the sample reaches the laboratory. (see NHSGGC Amended Protocol Ordering and Use of Taxis and Couriers October 2011)
- http://www.staffnet.ggc.scot.nhs.uk/Corporate%20Services/Communications/Briefs/Documents/amended%20taxi%20protocol%20-%20phase%201_acute%20services.pdf
- As with **ALL** emergency blood tests ensure results are followed up immediately they are available. In normal hours the lab is able to process and produce results within 1-2 hours of receipt.
- Communication with paediatricians is essential as their management may be significantly altered by these results however the responsibility for taking and sending these investigations and obtaining these results remains with the midwifery / obstetric team.
- Ensure tests are recorded on PNBS at next opportunity