

NewYork-Presbyterian

Thank you for choosing NewYork-Presbyterian for the delivery of your baby. We are honored to care for you. In light of the ongoing developments with the COVID-19 crisis, we are taking a number of additional steps to protect your health, your baby's health, and the health of our staff members.



When you come to Labor and Delivery, you will receive a face mask to wear.



To protect your team, all staff working on Labor and Delivery will also wear a face mask.



You are permitted to have **one birthing partner or support person with you during labor, delivery, and immediately after birth**. This person may not have any COVID-19 symptoms, a history of being COVID-19-positive within the past 14 days, or been exposed in the past 14 days to any person confirmed to have COVID-19. Your support person will need to wear protective gear, including a mask, gown, and gloves, and will be tested for symptoms and fever after each staff shift change. This person will need to leave if symptoms or a fever of 100° F or more develops.



We will test you for the COVID-19 virus. This is because many symptoms of labor mimic those of COVID-19, such as fatigue, shortness of breath, and diarrhea. The information we gain from these test results will help us protect you and your new baby.



As part of our revised General Visitation Guidelines, effective March 28, 2020, **we are not permitting any visitors to the Post-Partum Unit, including birthing partners and support persons**. We are taking these steps because COVID-19 is so widespread in the community that visitors may be infected — exposing you, your baby, our staff, and possibly other patients to the virus. This means that after you go to your postpartum room, your support person will need to leave the hospital.



Your birthing partner and other loved ones are welcome to be **present virtually**. If you need assistance with these arrangements, kindly let us know and we will gladly help you get connected.



When it's time for you to go home, your support person can meet you at the front door of the hospital.

If you test positive for the virus, you can still have your baby room in with you as long as you are able to provide care, with six feet between you unless you are breastfeeding or holding the baby. We will not place COVID-19-positive and COVID-19-negative patients in the same room. We will also test the babies of mothers who test positive for the virus and provide instructions to follow when they go home.

We understand that these changes will be difficult, especially for you and your loved ones, but we believe that they are necessary to protect your health, the health of other new mothers and children, and our staff. Please reach out to your care team or to Patient Services Administration if you have any questions about these policies.

Thank you for observing these important measures to promote a safe and healing environment for all.