



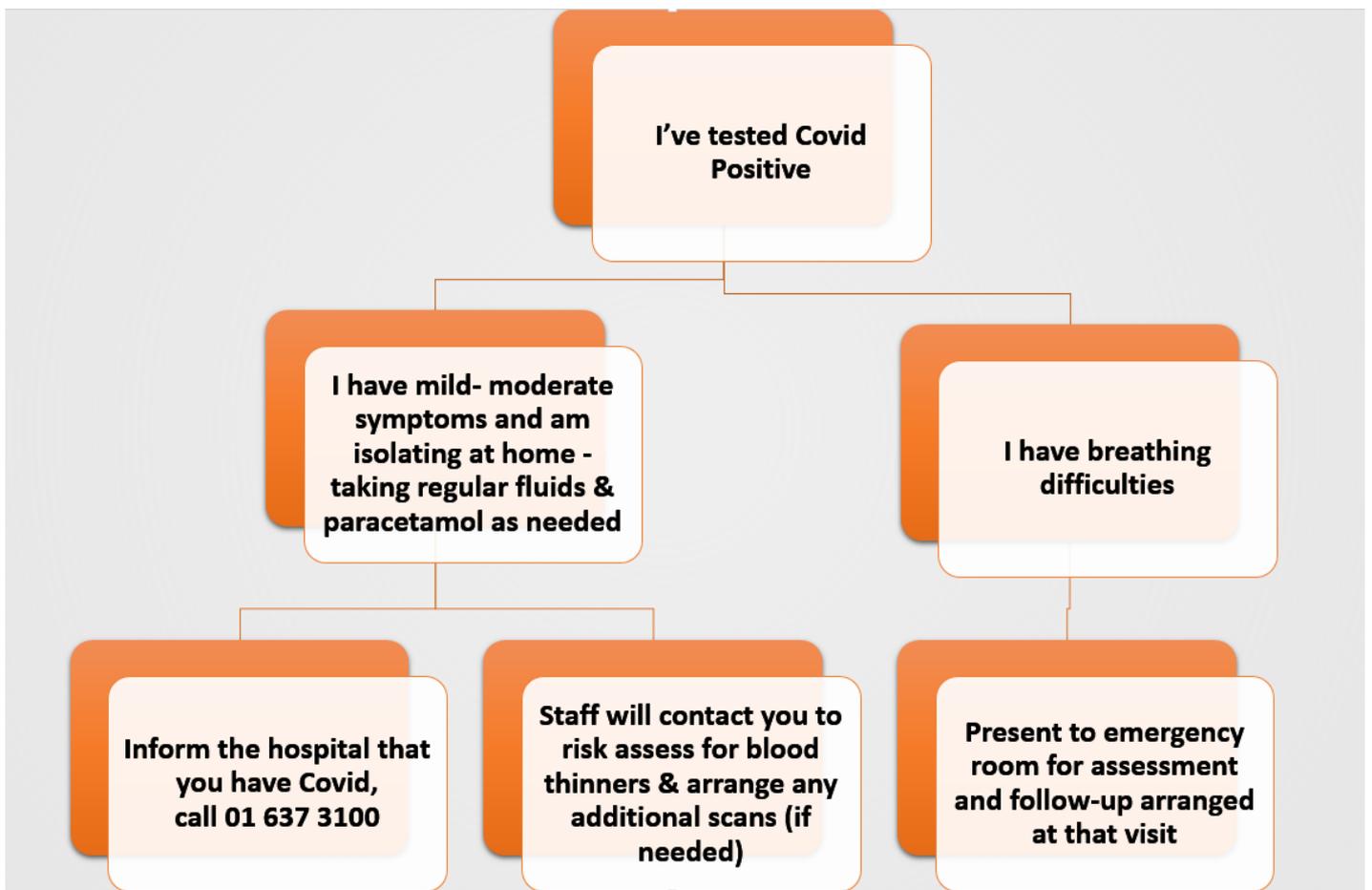
I've tested Covid positive on a home antigen or PCR and I am pregnant and:

- I'm a private patient of a Consultant Obstetrician in NMH.

Please contact your chosen consultant's secretary who will organise your virtual risk assessment for blood scans and rearrange your follow-up. However, if you have breathing difficulties, please attend an emergency department for assessment.

- I'm a public or Semi-Private patient booked for antenatal care in NMH.

Please see the below flow chart of expected care.





FAQs

Why will a doctor or midwife return my call?

A current infection with Covid presents a short-term increased risk of forming a blood clot while pregnant. A member of our team will call you to assess your personal risk of developing a clot and may prescribe a 14-day course of blood thinning injections to reduce this risk. If you are very unwell requiring a hospital or ICU stay with Covid, a longer course of blood thinners may be advised.

Why does everyone who is pregnant and tests positive for Covid not need to take blood thinners (Innohep/Clexane)?

Blood thinners are not routinely prescribed if there is only one risk factor for blood clots. The doctor or midwife will ask you if any of the other relevant risk factors are present before recommending blood thinners are prescribed for you. Please see the Royal College of Physicians in Ireland Guidance document for further information.

<https://rcpi-live-cdn.s3.amazonaws.com/wp-content/uploads/2022/01/Guidance-on-thromboprophylaxis-140122.pdf>

What additional testing will be done for me and my baby?

The decision to offer additional testing will depend on each patient's individual risk and stage of pregnancy. For most women their routine antenatal checks or tests will be postponed until you have exited the hospital isolation period of 10 days. For women who are over 24 weeks pregnant at the time of a positive test, they will be offered an additional scan in our ultrasound department a few weeks after exiting isolation. For women who are 35 weeks pregnant or more, a routine antenatal check will be scheduled in a Covid clinic.

I think I need to come to the emergency room due to a pregnancy concern, but I have Covid, can I still come to the hospital?

If you need to attend the hospital due to a pregnancy concern and have covid please refer to the NMH four point plan.

The NMH 4-point Plan
The 4-point plan for any patient concerned they have Covid-19

1. If you have symptoms or a diagnosis and you need to visit the hospital for an appointment or because you're in labour, it's important that you phone the hospital in advance to let us know you're on your way.
We know it can be hard to remember an extra step, especially when you're in labour, but this will really help us to prepare for your arrival.
2. Please don't take public transport to the hospital.
3. We ask that you phone us again just before you actually arrive at the hospital – a quick call to the hospital helpline means we can get a team member to the door in time to meet you and get you to the right place in the safest and speediest way.
4. When we meet you, we will give you a mask and ask you to wash your hands or use an alcohol gel. Your medical team will also be wearing protective gear, as that's the best way for us to take care of you safely – and so that we can stay with you.

Coronavirus COVID-19 Public Health Advice

The National Maternity Hospital

Why is the hospital using a ten-day isolation period when the government guidance is seven days?

We understand that this may cause some confusion given you may have covered/exited the HSE isolation period and returned to work or activities. However, given the rising case numbers, the additional precautions are being maintained to reduce the exposure risk to hospital staff in attempt to minimise disruptions to our service and maintain patient safety.