

## SOP for Category 1 LSCS in suspected/confirmed COVID-19 women

COVID-19 pregnant women are at higher risk of fetal distress occurring.  
Consider: early epidural  
earlier delivery (i.e. Cat 2/3 section) to avoid Cat 1 LSCS

### On Central Delivery Suite

If Cat 1 LSCS needed:



Midwife

Inform CDS  
coordinator  
(9 07464 903080)

I'm in Room x. Please put out 2222 call:  
'Category 1 caesarean section team to  
**St Michael's Theatre 5**



Midwife



Obstetrician

- Intrauterine resuscitation:
  - stop oxytocin
  - full left lateral
  - IV fluids (unless PET or sepsis)
  - consider tocolysis
- Ensure woman wears surgical facemask
- Disconnect pumps and CTG
- Move to Theatre 5 (side doors: 'patient entrance')
- Woman's partner remains in room



Anaesthetist

- Get epidural yellow tray drugs plus vasopressors
- Check room number with CDS coordinator
- Go to room
- Obtain FFP3 mask
- Don **Full PPE**
- Enter room
- Epidural in situ:
  - test dose
  - begin top-up
- No/ineffective epidural:
  - anaesthetic history
  - consent for GA ± spinal
- Help move woman to theatre 5



CDS Coordinator

- Put out 2222 call: 'Category 1 caesarean section team to **St Michael's Theatre 5**'
- Bleep 3036 to inform them
- Ensure doors of rooms 11–14 are closed
- Don surgical mask
- Ensure easy access for team from the room to move to Theatre 5
- Do not touch the bed

# Theatre 5 Anaesthetic Room

(donning area for Category 1 section team)

**Surgical & scrub team**

Bleeps off  
Don FFP3 mask → Enter theatre → Scrub & prepare for LSCS/delivery  
Don visor

**Circulating team**

Bleeps off  
Don full PPE → Enter theatre → Prepare for LSCS/delivery

**Anaesthetic assistant**

Bleeps off  
Don full PPE →

**Collect :**

- Red 'Covid Emergency' box (in fridge)
- Controlled drugs (in bags)

→

**Enter theatre:**

- prepare spinal trolley
- await team from CDS

**Nursing assistant**

No PPE →

- Collect CMAC (Theatre 1/2 anaesthetic room or gynae recovery)
- Blue (bleeps) box to CDS reception

→

Remain in anaesthetic room as 'clean' buddy

**NICU team**

Assess need for neonatal resuscitation → Full PPE (only if entering theatre)

## Full PPE



wash hands



FFP3 mask



visor



surgical gown



gloves

# In Theatre 5

(NB – avoid removing facemask in theatre)



Midwife

- Attach CTG
- Prepare to catheterise (can scrub in scrub area) as normal
- Doff and exit
- Don FFP3 and visor
- Re-enter theatre and scrub for delivery



Obstetrician

- Reassess woman
- Communicate delivery plan and urgency to team (including NICU team)
- Discuss anaesthetic options with anaesthetic team
- WHO Sign-In
- Doff and exit
- Re-enter theatre and scrub for delivery



Anaesthetic assistant

- Prepare spinal kit
- Await patient and team
- WHO Sign-In once delivery plan agreed

If GA required:

- Team members without FFP3 to resuscitaire room
- Use COVID GA checklist

## WHO Time-Out

### PROCEED WITH DELIVERY

Note: communication will be limited by masks

## AFTER SURGERY:

### WHO Sign-Out

#### If GA:

- Team assist with transfer to bed
- Surgical/midwifery/circulating team **doff** and leave before extubation
- Nursing assistant to remain in anaesthetic room as clean buddy
- Anaesthetic assistant and scrub nurse remain to recover woman
- Extubate (use **Extubation checklist**)
- Recover
- Transfer back to CDS **in PPE**
- Nursing assistant (in surgical mask) to act as guide and clear way – does not touch bed)

#### If spinal/epidural:

- Team assist with transfer to bed
- Surgical/circulating team **doff** and leave
- Anaesthetist and midwife transfer back to CDS (**in PPE**) with partner (**in PPE**)
- Nursing assistant (in surgical mask) to act as guide and clear way – does not touch bed

## Team aftercare:

### Rehydrate & Debrief