PROCESS FOR LATERAL FLOW TESTING FOR PARTNERS WITHIN MATERNITY AT STEPPING HILL

Commencing 6.4.21

Women attending for antenatal appointments up to 24 weeks to be provided with the web address for partner to have lateral flow covid swab prior to appointment

<https://www.stockport.gov.uk/getting-tested-coronavirus>

The swab can be pre-booked online for up to 2 weeks in advance but needs to be taken within 48 hours the appointment

Partners should not attend for lateral flow tests if they have symptoms of coronavirus or are self-isolating

Testing is undertaken at Fred Perry House in Stockport SK1 3UR 6 days per week

Details required on booking the test include contact number & email address and swab results are texted after 30 minutes.

If the lateral flow test result is positive-partner is required to get a PCR test at the nearest available centre.

Self-isolation should commence until the result of the PCR is known.

He/she should not attend the hospital

All partners attending should still follow NHS covid guidance:

* Follow lockdown rules
* Maintain social distancing
* Wash hands regularly
* Wear a face mask

Partners will be asked to leave if there is non-adherence to these rules

From 24 weeks partners will be given 2 boxes of lateral flow tests from Fred Perry House with instruction on use (7 tests per box). Repeat visits will be required in order to obtain further tests.

Twice weekly lateral flow tests should then be undertaken & recorded as instructed from 24-43 weeks or until postnatal discharge) to allow for any unpredictable attendance including **maternity triage, delivery and the post-natal ward.**

If 2 support partners are required in labour- both will need to demonstrate a negative lateral flow test on arrival to hospital

If lateral flow test result is negative-partner can attend & provide support in any maternity setting within the Stepping Hill Hospital

You will need to show the negative result text on arrival & screening questions will also be asked.