

The Coronavirus in Pregnancy Fact Sheet

- Very little is known about COVID-19, particularly related to its effect on pregnant women and infants, and there currently are no recommendations specific to pregnant women regarding the evaluation or management of COVID-19.
- Pregnant women are no more likely than anyone else to have severe symptoms from the coronavirus.
 - In an analysis of 147 women, only 8 percent had severe disease and 1 percent were in critical condition, according to a report published recently by the World Health Organization.
 - Based on other coronaviruses (SARS/MERS), pregnant may have a bigger risk of severe respiratory failure from a COVID 19 infection
 - Pregnant women may be at higher risk of severe illness, morbidity, or mortality compared with the general population and adverse infant outcomes (e.g., preterm birth) also have been reported among infants born to mothers positive for COVID-19 during pregnancy. Based on limited data, it is not clear if outcomes were related to maternal infection.
 - Currently, it is unknown if COVID 19 crosses the placenta – newborns contracted from mother after birth or before?
 - In a limited recent published case series of infants born to mothers infected with COVID-19, none of the infants tested positive for COVID-19
 - To date, infants born to women with an infection (late in pregnancy) seemed free of the virus and appeared healthy at birth, according to a study of nine pregnant women and their babies published last month in The Lancet.
 - OF NOTE – fever in early pregnancy can cause birth defects

Mark P. Trolice, MD, FACOG, FACS, FACE
Director, Fertility CARE: The IVF Center
Professor, UCF College of Medicine