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**PREGNANCY AND CORONAVIRUS**

**Frequently Asked Questions**

1. I am pregnant. When should I inform my line manager?

We recommend that staff who become pregnant during the COVID-19 pandemic inform their line manager as soon as they become aware that they are pregnant to ensure a risk assessment is completely as soon as possible.

1. Should I arrange a risk assessment?

Expectant mothers at all stages of pregnancy are regarded as being at risk. All pregnant staff should therefore complete a [risk assessment](http://hr.qmul.ac.uk/equality/protected-characteristics/pregnancy-and-maternity/). This is sent to the occupational health service who will assess to ensure sufficient systems are put in place to protect the pregnant staff member. OH will then contact the staff member if required.

1. Should I continue to attend regular antenatal appointments?

Yes, the NHS advise that provided you are well it is important to attend all routine appointments. If you do feel unwell, you are advised to consult your community midwife in order to postpone your visits for the time being.

1. I am a clinical member of staff. Is there anything else I need to consider?

#### Pregnant staff who are employed on a clinical basis are advised to consult [specific guidance](https://www.rcog.org.uk/globalassets/documents/guidelines/2020-04-21-occupational-health-advice-for-employers-and-pregnant-women.pdf) developed by the Royal College of Obstetricians and Gynaecologists, Royal College of Midwives and Faculty of Occupational Medicine, which will be especially helpful to expectant mothers where the following circumstances apply:

* Clinical staff at the pre-28 weeks stage concerned about working in patient centred roles;
* Clinical staff at the pre-28 weeks stage who opt to continue providing patient centred care, and
* Clinical staff at the post-28 weeks stage with long term health conditions.
1. Where can I get further information?

In addition to the [specific guidance](https://www.rcog.org.uk/globalassets/documents/guidelines/2020-04-21-occupational-health-advice-for-employers-and-pregnant-women.pdf) referred to above, the Royal College of Obstetricians and Gynaecologists have also developed a set of [frequently asked questions](https://www.rcog.org.uk/en/guidelines-research-services/guidelines/coronavirus-pregnancy/covid-19-virus-infection-and-pregnancy/) covering all aspects of coronavirus and pregnancy.

Further information is also available via the [World Health Organisation’s guidance](https://www.who.int/emergencies/diseases/novel-coronavirus-2019/question-and-answers-hub/q-a-detail/q-a-on-covid-19-pregnancy-and-childbirth). More general advice on coronavirus and pregnancy can be accessed via the [NHS website](https://www.nhs.uk/start4life/pregnancy/coronavirus-covid19-advice-during-pregnancy/).