



# BCWH

## COVID-19: SUPPORT AND MOBILITY FOR WOMEN IN LABOUR

### May 6, 2020

<b>What's New?</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Discuss the number and criteria for support people attending to a patient during labour and birth.</li> <li>• Guidance for doulas when including them as a member of the care team.</li> <li>• Provide criteria for ambulation for women with COVID-19</li> </ul>
<b>Why?</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Provides alignment with Ministry of Health's recommendations on safe physical distancing, infection control measures and visitor restrictions to acute care facilities.</li> <li>• In alignment with recent Doula recommendations from the Perinatal Coordinating Council.</li> </ul>
<b>How does this affect my practice?</b>	<p><b>Support Person:</b> One adult asymptomatic support person is allowed to accompany patient throughout labour, delivery and postpartum.</p> <p><b>Ambulation:</b> Women with COVID and their partner must remain in their room with droplet precautions in place as per infection control policy.</p> <p><b>Doulas:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Doulas are considered part of the care team for pregnant patients. The following criteria must be in place when a doula has been requested to accompany the pregnant woman:</li> <li>• The doula must have recognized doula certification prior to the COVID-19 pandemic declaration and must provide proof of this when arriving at hospital.</li> <li>• The doula will only provide support during the period of labour and delivery and only for vaginal births. Doulas will not be permitted to visit in post-partum, or to attend deliveries in the OR.</li> <li>• The doula must wear clean scrubs, clean shoes/booties and the appropriate PPE provided by the facility while in the hospital.</li> <li>• The doula will be screened at entry and must be asymptomatic when they provide support. If they become symptomatic during the admission they will be asked to leave by maternity staff.</li> <li>• If the patient is suspect or COVID+ the doula will not be allowed to participate as part of the care team due to risk of exposure.</li> </ul>
<b>How do I find out more?</b>	Go to <a href="#">COVID-19: SUPPORT AND MOBILITY FOR WOMEN IN LABOUR</a>
<b>Who do I contact for further information?</b>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Contact your unit/program clinical educator or nurse leader</li> <li>2. Page the Infection Control Practitioner at: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Local 2161 or pager 41-02411 Monday to Friday 0800-1600 or IPACS@cw.bc.ca</li> <li>• After Hours page the Infection Control Officer through paging 2161</li> </ul> </li> </ol>