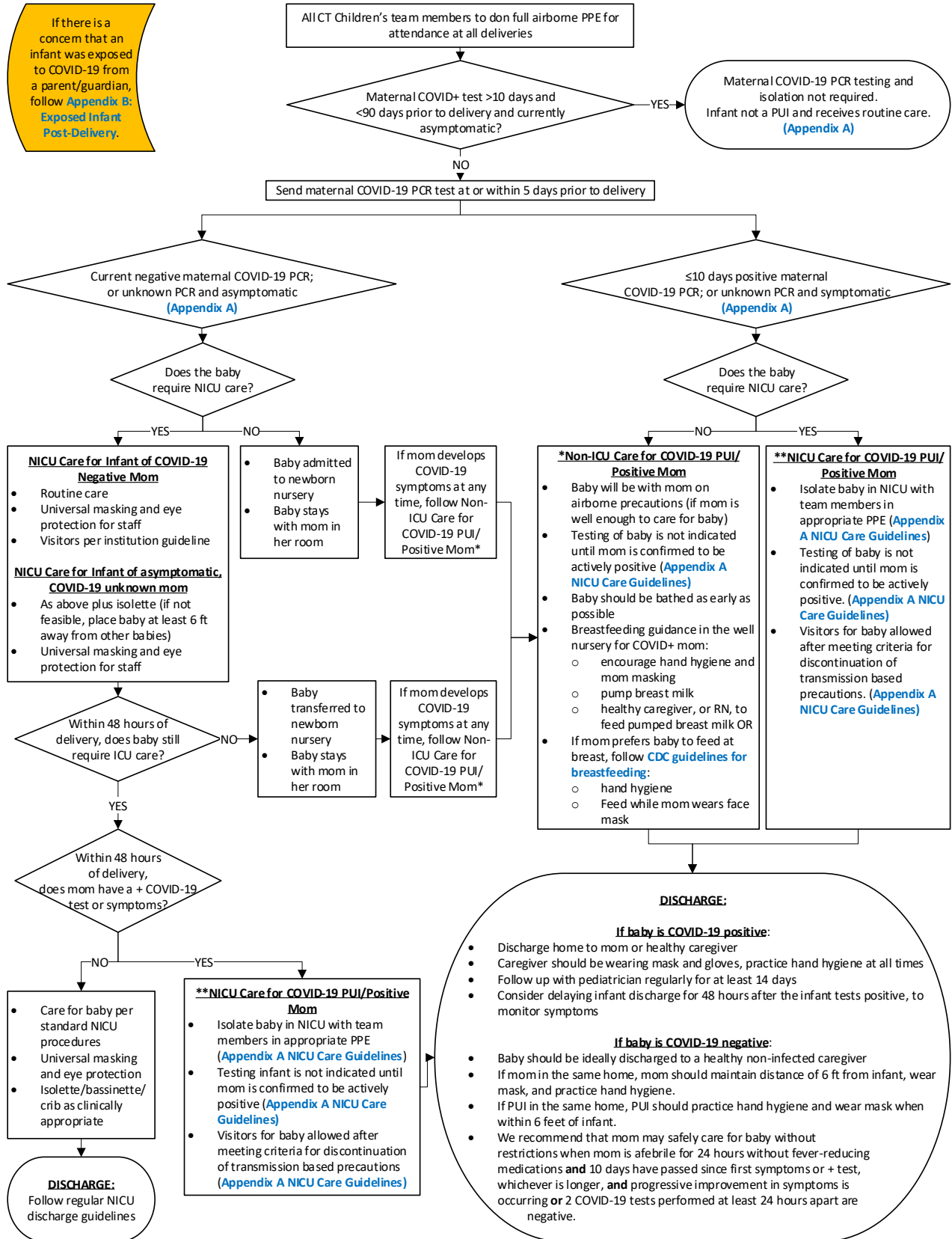


# CLINICAL PATHWAY: CT Children's COVID-19 Newborn Care and Disposition

THIS PATHWAY  
SERVES AS A GUIDE  
AND DOES NOT  
REPLACE CLINICAL  
JUDGMENT.



NEXT PAGE



CONTACTS: ANNMARIE GOLIOTO, MD | DAVID SINK, MD  
This pathway is subject to change, based on evolving recommendations from the CDC and CT DPH.

LAST UPDATED: 01.15.21



# CLINICAL PATHWAY: CT Children's COVID-19 Newborn Care and Disposition Appendix A: NICU Care Guidelines

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- **Infant is a PUI if:**
  - Mother is symptomatic at delivery and either has never been tested or results are pending
  - Mother has 1<sup>st</sup> positive COVID test within 10 days of delivery
  - Mother has a positive COVID test >90 days before delivery and is symptomatic at delivery without retest (or results are pending)
- **NICU Care for baby identified as PUI – PPE Guidelines:**
  - **If baby is in Room Air or less than 2L Nasal Cannula:**
    - Use Droplet and Contact precautions: gown, gloves, standard procedural mask and eye protection (face shield preferred or goggles) should be used. Personal eyeglasses are not adequate protection.
  - **If baby is on respiratory support of 2L HFNC or greater:**
    - Use Airborne, Droplet and Contact precautions: gown, gloves, N95 respiratory mask with eye protection (face shield preferred or goggles) should be used. Personal eyeglasses are not adequate protection. Procedural mask should be worn over N-95 mask to keep it clean for re-use. If face shield falls below level of chin, procedure mask does not need to be worn over the N-95 mask.
- **Testing recommendations:**
  - Testing of baby is indicated when mom has 1<sup>st</sup> positive COVID test within 10 days of delivery **OR**
  - Positive COVID-19 test in mom that is >90 days from the previous positive test
  - **Procedure:**
    - Begin at 24hrs of age or later
    - 1 testing swab placed orally, then to naso-pharynx
    - 2 tests that are sampled consecutively >24 hours apart and result as negative are necessary to clear the baby from isolation
    - If baby test is **POSITIVE**: repeat testing every 48-72 hours until 2 consecutive negative tests **OR** discontinue precautions 10 days after infant's positive test or onset of symptoms, whichever is later
  - If maternal COVID positive status was >10 days, and <90 days, prior to infant birth, then infant testing is not required
- **Visitation recommendations when mother has tested positive for COVID-19:**
  - **COVID-19 positive parent can visit infant (even if baby on precautions) in the NICU when:**
    - At least 10 days have passed since her first positive test if she was never symptomatic **OR**
    - Afebrile for >24 hours without use of antipyretics **AND**
    - Improvement in symptoms **AND**
    - At least 10 days since symptoms first appeared **OR**
    - 2 negative COVID-19 PCR tests were obtained ≥24 hours apart
  - **Parent who is quarantined secondary to exposure to COVID+ contact can visit after the quarantine period has concluded per CDC guidelines**
- **Discharge recommendations:**
  - **If Mom is COVID-19 positive:**
    - If baby is positive: discharge home to mom or healthy caregiver if mom unable to care for baby. Caregivers should wear mask, gloves, and practice hand hygiene. Close follow up with pediatrician recommended regularly for at least 14 days to monitor infant's health. Consider monitoring infant in the hospital for 48 hours after their positive test before discharging.
    - If baby is negative: the baby should primarily be cared for by healthy non-infected caregiver. If mom is in the same home, she should maintain distance of 6 feet from infant, whenever possible. PUI caregivers in the same home should wear mask and practice hand hygiene when within 6 feet of infant.
    - Mom can safely care for baby without restrictions when she has been afebrile for 24 hours without anti-pyretics **AND** 10 days have passed since first symptoms or her positive test, whichever is longer **AND** there is progressive improvement in symptoms **OR** she has had 2 negative COVID tests performed at least 24 hours apart.
- **Intubations and extubations in NICU, all patients:**
  - Team members at bedside should be minimized and wear airborne precautions PPE
  - Most experienced team member available to perform procedure
- **ALL parents to wear surgical/procedural masks when visiting NICU at all times.**
- **ALL staff to wear hospital issued eye protection and surgical masks in all NICU areas.**

1/11/21 version. Contact: Annmarie Golioto & David Sink



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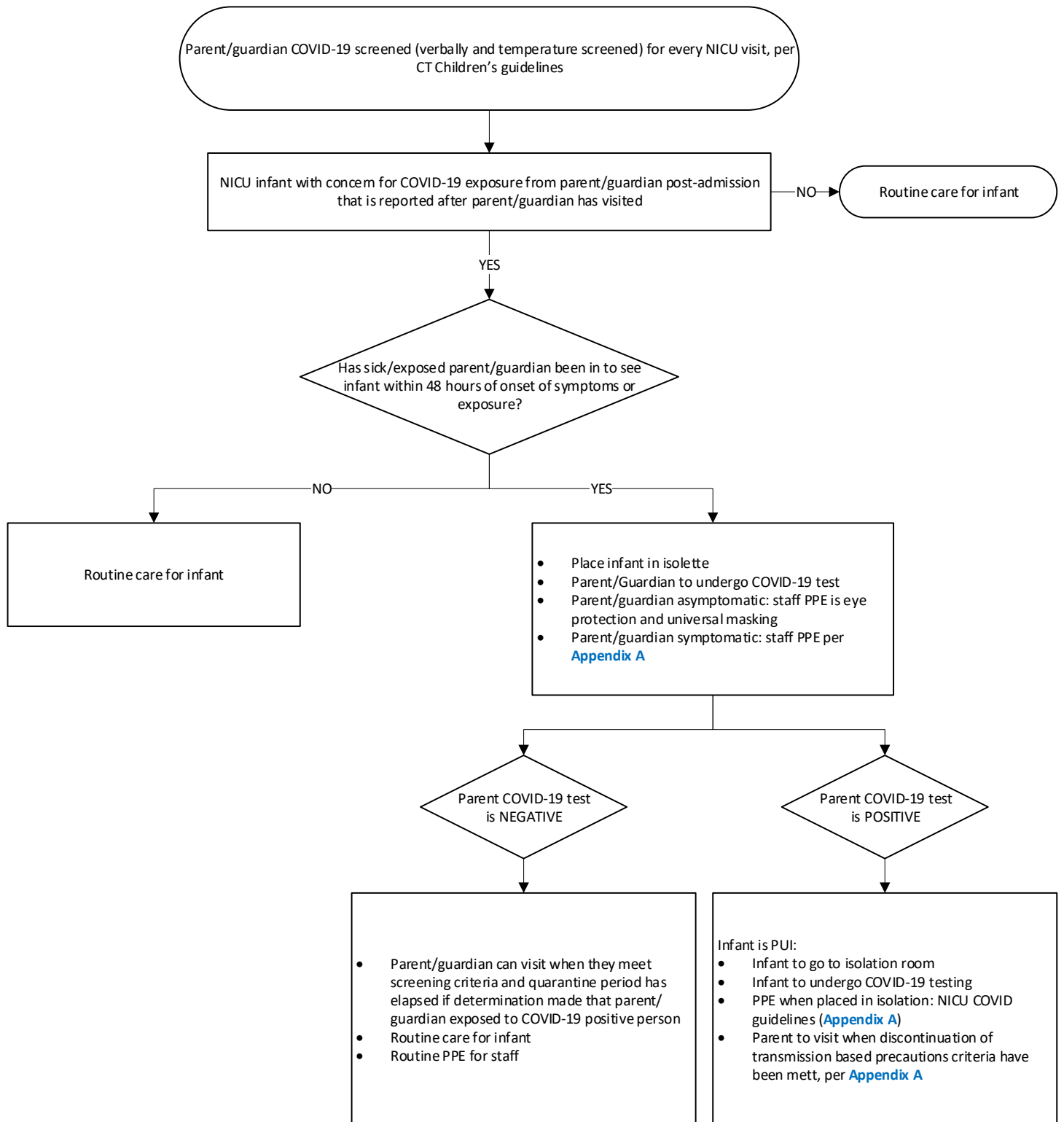
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**CLINICAL PATHWAY:**  
**CT Children's COVID-19 Newborn Care and Disposition**  
**Appendix B: Exposed Infant Post-Delivery**

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