

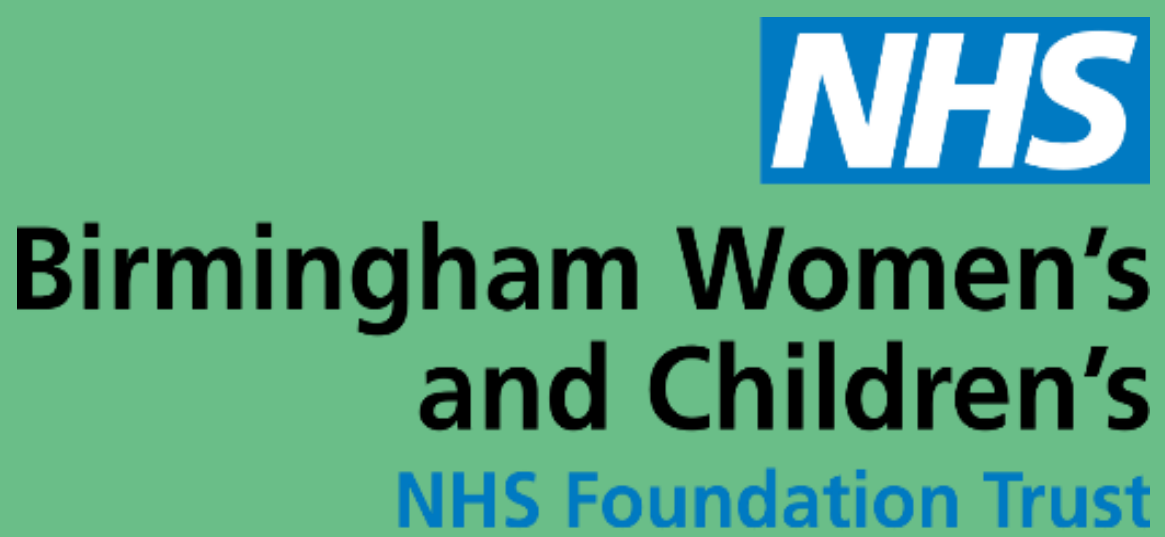
Mother-to-child transmission of SARS-CoV-2 and rates of neonatal positivity



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1	Objectives	3	Results	4	Conclusions	
	1. To determine the rate of SARS-CoV-2 positivity in babies born to mothers with coronavirus disease-19 (COVID-19) 2. To determine the timing of mother-to-child transmission (MTCT) of SARS-CoV-2		 140 cohort studies of 14,271 neonates  1.8% (95% CI 1.2-2.5%) rate of neonatal SARS-CoV-2 positivity 592 SARS-CoV-2 positive neonates' viral exposure was classified according to the 2021 World Health Organisation (WHO) classification system: 434 were exposed in-utero 32 were exposed intrapartum 70 were exposed in the early postnatal period 389 neonates were categorised with 'indeterminate' likelihood of mother-to-child SARS-CoV-2 transmission due to a lack of repeat confirmatory testing at specified times. Mother-to-child SARS-CoV-2 transmission was confirmed in 14 neonates: 7 from in-utero transmission 2 from intrapartum transmission 5 from early postnatal transmission 	- The rate of neonatal SARS-CoV-2 positivity from confirmed vertical transmission is low - Therefore, mother-to-child transmission of SARS-CoV-2 infection is likely to be uncommon - Neonates can be infected at any time during pregnancy and delivery - Appropriate measures must be taken to reduce risk of viral transmission - Vaccination in pregnancy should be encouraged to prevent infection and severe disease in mothers	5	Further Research
	- DESIGN: a living systematic review and random-effects meta-analysis - DATA COLLECTION: a literature search of major databases and preprint servers from December 2019 to August 2021 - INCLUSION CRITERIA: - The rates of neonatal SARS-CoV-2 positivity: Cohort studies of pregnant and recently pregnant women with confirmed SARS-CoV-2 infection attending hospital for any reason - The timing and likelihood of mother-to-child SARS-CoV-2 transmission in positive neonates: Case series and case reports - DATA ANALYSIS: Two independent reviewers conducted: - Inclusion screening of potential studies for inclusion by title and abstract, then by full text - Data extraction - Quality assessment			- More stringent recording of timing of repeat neonatal SARS-CoV-2 testing, in order to classify viral exposure according to the 2021 WHO classification system of mother-to-child SARS-CoV-2 transmission - Quantitative research to explore the effects of COVID-19 variants and maternal COVID-19 vaccination on mother-to-child transmission of SARS-CoV-2 - Qualitative research to gauge practitioner and patient thoughts on experiences of maternity care during the COVID-19 pandemic and thoughts on neonatal SAR-CoV-2 positivity		