March 27, 2020

TO: Vice Chancellors for Health Sciences
    Chief Executive Officers
    Health Professional School Deans

Dear Colleagues:

Throughout UC hospitals, clinics and health centers, the safety of our employees remains our paramount priority as we work together to meet the needs of our patients during the COVID-19 pandemic.

The following guidance applies to pregnant providers (i.e., faculty, trainees, and staff) and was developed in consultation with the Vice Chancellors and CEOs, and the Infection Prevention and Hospital Epidemiology Program staff at all five UC Health Locations.

Pregnant providers (faculty, trainees, and staff) should:

1. Limit direct care of patients with confirmed or suspected COVID-19, especially during higher risk procedures (e.g., aerosol-generating procedures) if feasible based on staffing availability. While the available data does not support removing pregnant providers from work at this time, this should be reassessed as additional data are available.

2. Avoid in-person patient care and patient contact after 37 weeks of gestation during the COVID-19 pandemic. This will minimize maternal infection risk, thus minimizing risk of mother/infant separation after birth if a mother is COVID-19 positive.

As situations evolve, we will update this guidance as needed.

Sincerely,

Carrie L. Byington, MD
Executive Vice President
UC Health

CLB/rn

cc: President Napolitano
    Chancellors
    UCOP Management Response Team