Nosocomial Covid-19 Infection in Women Undergoing Elective Cesarean Sections: A prospective cohort study

Aaron Nizam[1], Michael Nimaroff[1], Andrew Menzin[1], Gary Goldberg[1], Santiago Miyara[2], and Ernesto Molmenti[3]

[1]Northwell health
[2]Elmezzi Graduate School of Molecular Medicine at Northwell Health
[3]Northwell Health

March 07, 2024

Abstract

Objectives: To determine the nosocomial infection rate in women undergoing elective cesarean section Design: Non-randomized prospective cohort trial Setting: Two large-volume obstetrical units at academic institutions Population: Women undergoing elective cesarean section during the reopening phase of the Covid-19 pandemic in New York State Methods: Eligible patients with negative pre-operative Covid-19 reverse transcriptase-polymerase chain reaction test and IgG antibody test were re-tested 6-9 days after discharge. Main Outcome Measures: The primary objective was the Covid-19 test conversion rate defined as a positive PCR test after discharge with a negative pre-operative test. This was used as a proxy for the nosocomial infection rate. Results: No patients with a negative PCR test pre-operatively had a positive PCR test for the Covid-19 virus postoperatively. Conclusions: With a strict and methodical perioperative and postpartum protocol, we can limit nosocomial Covid-19 infections in women undergoing elective cesarean section. Funding: No external funding was obtained for this study Keywords: Covid-19, Cesarean Section, Nosocomial Infection

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`COVID-19 full manuscript v2.docx` available at [https://authorea.com/users/729363/articles/709830-nosocomial-covid-19-infection-in-women-unde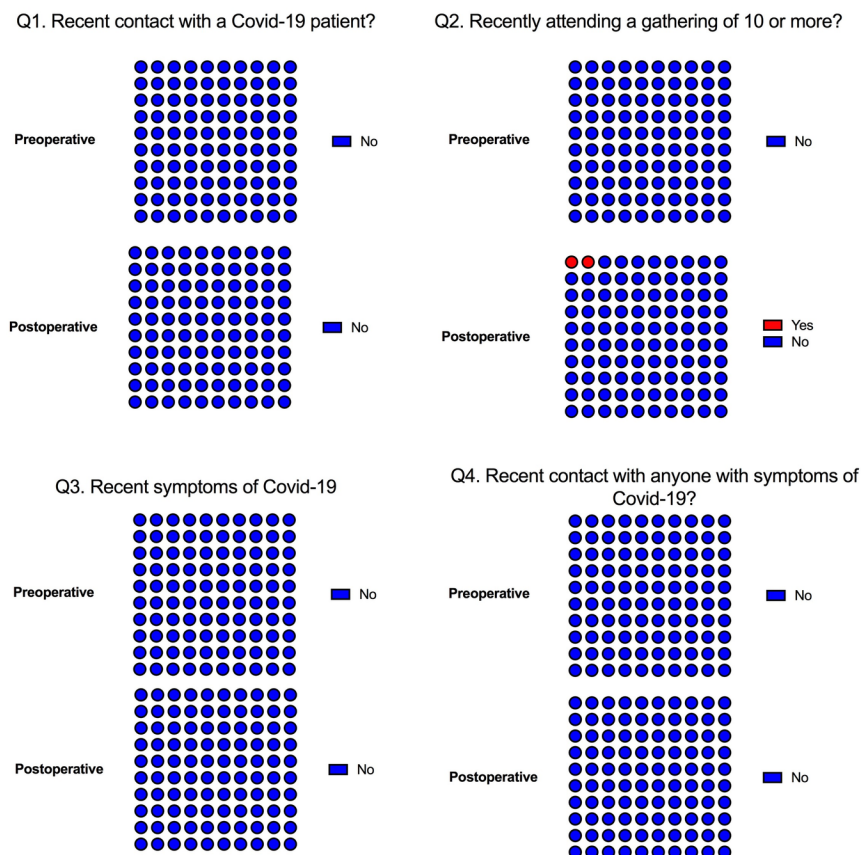rgoing-elective-cesarean-sections-a-prospective-cohort-study](https://authorea.com/users/729363/articles/709830-nosocomial-covid-19-infection-in-women-undergoing-elective-cesarean-sections-a-prospective-cohort-study)

Figure 1. Results of the Covid-19 Questionnaire in the preoperative and postoperative period.

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