between 4 and -70°C. Urine samples must also

be collected using a sterile container and stored

in the laboratory at a temperature that ranges

between 4 and -70°C.°\*

7 PREGNANCY

Currently, there is a paucity of knowledge and

data related to the consequences of COVID-19

during pregnancy.\*°\*\* However, pregnant

women seem to have a high risk of developing

severe infection and complications during the

recent 2019-nCoV outbreak.\*'-\*? This

speculation was based on previous available

scientific reports on coronaviruses during

pregnancy (SARS-CoV and MERS-CoV) as well as

the limited number of COVID-19 cases.\*'~4°

Analysing the clinical features and outcomes of

10 newborns (including two sets of twins) in

China, whose mothers are confirmed cases of

COVID-19, revealed that perinatal infection with

2019-nCoV may lead to adverse outcomes for

the neonates, for example, premature labour,

respiratory distress, thrombocytopenia with

abnormal liver function and even death.“ It is

still unclear whether or not the COVID-19

infection can be transmitted during pregnancy

to the foetus through the transplacental

route.\*\* A recent case series report, which

assessed intrauterine vertical transmission of