assessed intrauterine vertical transmission of

COVID-19 infection in nine infants born to

infected mothers, found that none of the

infants tested positive for the virus.\*° Likewise,

there was no evidence of intrauterine infection

caused by vertical transmission in the SARS and

MERS epidemics.\*?

The CDC asserts that infants born to mothers

with confirmed COVID-19 are considered

persons under investigation (PUI) and should be

temporarily separated from the mother and

isolated.\*°

7.1 Breastfeeding and infant care

The data available to date is limited and cannot

confirm whether or not COVID-19 can be

transmitted through breast milk.\*° Assessing

the presence of COVID-19 in breast milk

samples from six patients showed negative

result.\*° The CDC points out that in case of a

confirmed or suspected COVID-19 infection, the

decision of whether or how to start or continue

breastfeeding should be made by the mother in

collaboration with the family and healthcare

practitioners.\*’ Careful precautions need to be

taken by the mother to prevent transmitting the

disease to her infant through respiratory

droplets during breastfeeding. This includes

wearing a facemask and practising hand