**IMG\_8203**

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.4°\*2 However, pregnant women seem to have a high risk of developing severe infection and complications during the recent 2019-nCoV outbreak.4'"\*? 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