
ROYAL HOSPITAL FOR WOMEN

Approved by
RHW Quality Council

CLINICAL POLICIES AND PROCEDURES

17/11/03

INDUCTION OF LABOUR POLICY AND PROCEDURE

OUTCOME:

That there is appropriate and safe management of each woman booked for induction of labour. An appropriate mode of induction has been chosen and the women given adequate information

PREAMBLE:

There are five methods used for Cervical ripening and Induction of Labour:

1. Prostaglandin gel (Prostin E2) to ripen the cervix or induce labour.
2. Foleys catheter to ripen the cervix.
3. Artificial rupture of membranes (ARM)
4. Intravenous Syntocinon infusion
5. A combination of above.

PROCEDURE:

- All patients for induction must be booked with Delivery Suite
- Inductions using a Foleys catheter or Prostin gel must also be booked with the Antenatal ward.
- A maximum of four inductions may be booked on any week day, excluding Public Holidays
- Should there be a need to book an induction when there are already four booked, or to book an induction on a public holiday or at the weekend then it must be discussed with the Nursing Unit Manager (Delivery Suite).
- Birth Centre patients booked for induction must be booked in Delivery Suite and included in the numbers even though they may transfer from the Antenatal Ward to the Birth Centre once labour establishes

IOL USING PROSTIN GEL

- Nulliparous women are admitted to the Antenatal Ward in the morning before the Induction is booked in Delivery Suite.
- Multiparous women are admitted to the Antenatal Ward the afternoon before the Induction is booked in Delivery Suite

IOL USING A FOLEYS CATHETER

- The patient is to be admitted to Antenatal Ward at 1400 hours on the day before the induction

IOL WITH ARTIFICIAL RUPTURE OF MEMBRANES AND/OR SYNTOCINON INFUSION

- The patient is asked to ring Delivery Suite at 0600 hours on the morning of the induction to confirm availability of a bed in Delivery Suite
- Encourage the patient to be in Delivery Suite as soon as possible after 0700 hours

RELATED POLICIES/PROCEDURES

- Policy: Management of Prolonged Pregnancy
- Clinical Policy & Procedures – Administration of Prostaglandins for Cervical Ripening/Induction of Labour.
- Clinical Policy & Procedures - Foleys catheter for Cervical ripening