

SAULT AREA HOSPITAL

PATIENT INFORMATION

Induction of Labour and/or Cervical Ripening

Reasons

1. Overdue
2. Medical reasons for either mother or baby

Cervical Ripening

Designed to soften the cervix in order to facilitate induction

1. Balloon catheter in cervix (small tube inserted in cervix)
2. Prostaglandin gel or cervidil medication inserted in vagina
3. Cytotec tablet inserted in the vagina

Induction with the Rupture of Membranes

Artificially “breaking the waters”

Induction with Oxytocin

1. Medication is given through an intravenous (IV) regulated by a pump.
2. This medication is increased gradually until you are in active labour.
3. The baby’s heart rate and your contractions will be monitored continually through the labour.

Your obstetrician or midwife will decide what the best type of induction would be for you.

When do I come in for induction?

1. On the scheduled day, between 7:00 and 7:30, call the Labour unit at 759-3615. The staff will tell you when to come in. It could be right away or later.
2. Have a light, healthy, normal breakfast or a light snack such as soup or sandwich.
3. Go to the Women & Children’s Health department in 1A.
4. Bring only the few items that you might need.
5. Visiting rules allow for only two significant coaches while in the labour area.

Could the induction be cancelled?

Yes. As staff is unable to predict the number of patients in the area at any given time, it might be necessary to reschedule the induction. A non-stress test may be required and this will be scheduled for you.