INDUCTION INDICATION:  
PRELABOUR RUPTURE OF MEMBRANES AT TERM  
(TERM PROM) and GBS POSITIVE

LEVEL OF EVIDENCE

Recommendations for priority: 1-A  
Recommendation for indication: 1-A

DEFINITION

Prelabour rupture of the membranes (PROM) refers to rupture of the fetal membranes prior to the onset of regular uterine contractions. It is referred to term PROM if it occurs ≥ 37+0 weeks gestation. At term, PROM complicates approximately 8% of pregnancies.

OUTCOMES

Current evidence suggests induction of labour with oxytocin for all women with Term PROM because this management reduces the risk of maternal infection and NICU admission without increasing caesarean sections and operative vaginal births. For women colonized with GBS the indication for induction is more compelling because of the additional benefit of labour induction in reducing neonatal infection. There is no clear consensus on the optimal time to commence labour induction. However, based on the review of published literature and national guidelines every attempt should be made to commence induction as soon as possible and within 8 hours after membrane rupture has occurred.

RECOMMENDATIONS

Labour induction is recommended in the setting of Term PROM and GBS positive. Induction should be considered as a priority 1 (< 8 hours).

SUPPORTING DOCUMENTATION REQUIRED

- Prenatal sheets
- Dating ultrasound (or information from fertility centre in the setting of IVF)
- Date and time of membrane rupture
- Confirmation of GBS status

REFERENCES


Dare MR, Middleton P, Crowther, CA, Flenady VJ, Varatharaju B. Planned early birth versus expectant management (waiting) for prelabour rupture of membranes at term (37 weeks or more) [Cochrane review]. In: Cochrane Database of Systemis Reviews 2006 Issue 1. Chichester (UK): John Wiley & Sons, Ltd;2006. DOI: 10.1002/14651858.CD005302.pub2

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