Induction of labour

Maternal and Fetal Assessment

Prior to starting IOL

- Maternal
  - Document baseline vital signs
  - Abdominal palpation
  - VE & Bishop score

- Fetal
  - A CTG must be performed immediately prior to starting IOL

After cervical ripening commenced

- Maternal
  - Remain with the woman for 10 minutes, observing CTG & palpating contractions
  - Review CTG 10-minutely
  - At 50 minutes record vital signs, vaginal loss & uterine activity
  - Woman may ambulate immediately after balloon catheter & 30 minutes after Prostin or Cervidil

- Fetal
  - Continuous CTG monitoring is indicated from commencement of oxytocic infusion

After starting oxytocin infusion

- Maternal
  - Remain with the woman for 10 minutes, palpating & recording uterine activity
  - Correlate palpation with woman’s perception of contraction strength
  - Offer support & analgesia accordingly
  - Record oxytocin infusion rate in ml/hr with each set of observations

- Fetal
  - Continuous CTG until normal trace observed
  - Auscultate FHR 1/2 hourly for 3 hours
IOL Process

Cervical ripening

- Ensure woman has an empty bladder

Prostin

- Insert Prostin gel into the posterior fornix
- Repeat VE 6 hours after dose and repeat if indicated
- ARM can be performed 4 hours after Prostin
- Oxytocin infusion can be started 6 hours after Prostin

Cervidil

- Insert the pessary high into the posterior fornix
- Trim the retrieval tape, ensuring enough length to enable removal
- Remove:
  - SROM
  - Regular, painful, 3-minutely contractions
  - Uterine hyperstimulation
  - Abnormal CTG
  - Maternal adverse effects
  - 30 minutes prior to Oxytocin infusion
  - 24 hours after insertion

Balloon catheter (SBC)

- Insert 16F or 18F Foley into the cervix
- Fill with 30 ml sterile water
- Tape with tension to the woman's thigh
- Remove:
  - 12–24 hours after insertion
  - SROM
  - Onset of labour
  - Uterine hyperstimulation

Oxytocin infusion

- Prepare a standard volume or low volume infusion
- Titratre infusion to reach and maintain 4 contractions in 10 minutes
- Postpartum titration as per local 3rd stage mx guideline

Spontaneous or artificial rupture of membranes (SROM or ARM)

- Oxytocin infusion can be started 6 hours after Prostin