Perinatal Elective Induction Safety
Processes to deliver reliable care with special attention to safety in delivery, which reduces the chances of harm to both mother and baby.

Domain

Patient Care Processes:
Clinical processes that ensure delivery of high-quality care to individual patients

Aims

Safe:
Delivery of care in a manner that minimizes any risk of harm to a patient

Process Attributes

$ Cost to Implement
The monetary resources required to implement this process

  Minimal: Just the cost of the improvement effort itself

(minutes) Time to Implement
The amount of time, from months to years, it will take on average to establish this process

  Fewer than 12 months

Difficulty to Implement
The challenges of implementing this process

  Most Challenging: Involves multiple units or disciplines AND requires a substantial shift in culture and/or operations

Level of Evidence
The degree to which the actions in this process are supported by research and experience; based on the Cochrane scale

  Some Evidence: Level III — Studies published with some control included

Details

Elements

- Elective Induction Bundle components:
  - Gestational age greater than or equal to 39 weeks is condition for elective induction
  - Recognition and management of tachysystole
  - Pelvic exam/Pelvic assessment
  - Reassuring fetal status /Normal fetal status (using NICHD 3-Tier System)

- Standard evaluation for labor, Assess and record:
  - Frequency and duration of uterine contractions
  - Documentation of fetal well-being
  - Cervical dilatation and effacement, unless contraindicated
  - Fetal presentation and station of the presenting part
  - Estimation of fetal weight and assessment of maternal pelvis

http://www.ihi.org/imap/tool/#process=cd1ce129-8d42-49d6-b0d4-d160a0ec195a8
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Outcomes

- **Harm**: Decreased harm to patient (e.g., Harms per 100 patient days, as measured by the IHI Global Trigger Tool)
- **Cost of Care**: Decreased cost per inpatient case

Service Lines and Critical Functions

- Obstetrics

Key Measures

- All Components of the Elective Induction Bundle Completed
  - Numerator: Percent of patients where all components of the Elective Induction Bundle were completed
  - Denominator: All patients in labor
- Percent change in rate of mothers transferred to higher level of care
- Percent change in rate of newborns admitted to neonatal intensive care

Reasons and Implications

Importance for Patients and Families

By following the safest elective induction processes, a hospital care team can reduce the chance of harm for both mother and baby and means that separating mother from infant after delivery is less likely.

Requirement, Standards, Policies, and Guidelines

- National Priorities Partnership (NPP)
- National Quality Forum (NQF)
- The Joint Commission (TJC)
  National Patient Safety Goal 3, High Alert Medications

Financial Implications

- Expense reduction can occur due to reduced length of stay in labor and delivery and the neonatal intensive care unit (NICU).
- Revenue reduction can occur due to decreased admissions and length of stay in the NICU.
- Positive returns on investment are reported in the literature because hospitals that have increased the reliability of these components have also reported a decrease in medical malpractice set-asides and expense.

Prerequisites

- Collaboration between nurses and obstetrical care providers in the labor and delivery unit
- Acceptance of standard algorithms for treatment

Resources

Additional Resources

- Association of Women’s Health, Obstetrics and Neonatal Nursing (AWHONN)
- American Academy of Pediatrics (AAP)
- American College of Obstetricians and Gynecologists (ACOG)
  Elective Induction
- Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality (AHRQ)
IHI.org Resources

- **Improvement Map Discussion Boards**
  Join the Improvement Map Discussion Groups to help IHI build dynamic communities of learning and support. Pose questions, offer new ideas, describe your improvement success stories and experiences, and share tips with your peers for taking full advantage of all the Improvement Map has to offer.

- **Exclusive On Demand Tools and Resources**
  Members of IHI's Passport have access to Exclusive On-Demand Tools and Resources. All the On-Demand tools and resources can be found here, including videos, podcasts, and PowerPoint presentations; click the area on the right to view an On-Demand resource for this Key Process.

- **Reducing Birth-Related Trauma and Liability Exposure**
  Lehigh Valley Hospital and Health Network (Allentown, Pennsylvania, USA) reduces birth-related trauma through their work as part of a Perinatal Innovation Community.

- **Improving Safety Within the Birth Center**
  Increased reliability in the Birth Center makes perinatal care safer at HealthPartners Regions Hospital (St. Paul, Minnesota, USA).

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