

Balloon Catheter Preparing for your Induction

INFORMATION FOR WOMEN

After your visit today, you will go home with a balloon catheter inserted in your cervix. The catheter will help prepare your cervix for labour.

WHAT TO EXPECT

The balloon catheter is a thin tube with two inflatable balloons on the end. The catheter is placed inside the cervix to help apply pressure by softening and opening it in readiness for the next phase of labour.

The catheter is left in place overnight and removed the next day. You can move around normally and go to the toilet while it is in place. It is normal to feel some cramping and tightening after the balloon catheter has been inserted. You can discuss pain relief options with your midwife or doctor.

WHEN TO CONTACT YOUR PRIMARY MIDWIFE

Please call your primary midwife if you have any of the following symptoms:

- significant pain or discomfort
- bleeding from your vagina
- difficulty passing urine
- labour starts and you are having regular contractions
- waters break (sometimes called rupture of membranes)
- you feel your baby's movements have changed

If your catheter falls out overnight and you're not experiencing any symptoms or concerns, please present to the Maternity Unit at 6.30am the following day to begin your induction.

WHEN TO PRESENT FOR YOUR INDUCTION

You will need to present to the Maternity Unit at 6.30am on date:

The process of inducing your labour will continue after your arrival. The next step will be artificially breaking your waters (rupturing the membrane) then potentially commencing a syntocinon infusion. The infusion is designed to help bring on (induce) or maintain labour, so a decision about its use will be made on the day.

WHO TO CONTACT

If you have any concerns, please call your MGP midwife (do not text):

MGP Midwife:

Phone:

If you are unable to reach your midwife please call Dhelkaya Health's Acute Unit directly on 5471 3473. If you are in an emergency situation or very worried, please call triple zero (000) for an ambulance.