

You are booked to have an in-patient induction of labour

You have been given this leaflet because your midwife or doctor has advised you to have your labour induced (started off) in hospital. This leaflet will help you, your partner and family understand what may happen during your induction of labour.

You will be contacted by the hospital staff who will inform you about the date when your induction of labour is booked. This may be by letter or telephone call.

On the day of your induction:

On the day of your induction, you should call the hospital at 10:30am on one of below numbers according to the site where your induction is planned.

Heartlands:

- 0121 424 3514

Good Hope:

- Ward 5: 0121 424 9205
- Labour Ward: 0121 424 7201

The midwife will advise you what time to come in for your induction of labour and where to go.

On the day of the induction please have your breakfast at home and bring along any medication/inhalers that you need regularly along with an overnight bag.

Please be aware that the process of induction and labour can take several days, and in some cases up to a week, so please pack accordingly for your stay with us.

Please be aware that there are occasions when you may be asked to attend a different hospital, or to attend the hospital later in the day or move your induction to a different day. If your admission for an induction of labour is moved to a different day, you will be invited into the hospital for a check up of you and your baby. These decisions are made by senior doctors and midwives to ensure the safety of you and your baby, as well as those of the other mums and babies we are caring for. If you have any concerns about you or your baby's wellbeing, particularly regarding your baby's movements you **MUST** inform the delivery suite straight away.

When you arrive at the hospital for an induction of labour

At Heartlands Hospital most inductions take place in the induction bays which are located on delivery suite, although in some circumstances you will be advised for your induction of labour to take place on the Aspen Ward.

At Good Hope Hospital most inductions are started on Ward 5, although in some circumstances you will be advised for your induction of labour to take place on delivery suite.

Information for Patients

On admission, a midwife will welcome you to your bed space and ensure you understand the induction of labour process and why it has been recommended that you are induced. You should have received the leaflet 'Induction of Labour' which gives more information, if not you can ask your midwife to provide a copy. You may be reviewed by a doctor before beginning the procedure; this will depend on your individual circumstances.

Your midwife will perform a full antenatal examination to ensure you and your baby are well before starting the induction. Your baby's heartbeat will be monitored for at least 20 minutes to ensure your baby's wellbeing before starting the induction process.

An internal examination will be performed to help decide which method of induction is best for you. The doctor or midwife will discuss with you the recommended method and administer this with your consent.

After administration, your baby's heart rate will be monitored, and you will be asked to rest on your bed for approximately 30 minutes.

Throughout the induction of labour process, a midwife will provide ongoing care to you and your baby and be available to advise and support you. As one to one care from a midwife is not routinely recommended during induction of labour, your midwife may also be looking after other women who are also being induced.

What happens next?

If you go into established labour you will be transferred to a delivery/birthing room for one to one care from a midwife.

If it is recommended that your waters need to be broken, we will only proceed with this if both a room on delivery suite and a midwife are available, for the safety of you and your baby. This may not happen straight away. The consultant in charge of the delivery suite, as well as the midwife co-ordinator of the shift, will make a decision about when to admit you to a delivery/birthing room based on medical needs and keeping in mind the safety of you and your baby.

Facilities available during your stay

There is tea, coffee, and hot chocolate making facilities available outside of your room/bay. There is a water cooler available also. You may wish to consider bringing your own re-fillable water bottle.

There are fruit and biscuits available upon request. All meals will be provided. Please feel free to bring in extra snacks to your liking. Please be aware that there is no microwave available.

Visiting

Visiting times may vary depending on where your induction of labour is taking place, this will be confirmed with you prior to your admission.

If you require this information in another format, such as a different language, large print, braille or audio version please ask a member of staff or email interpreting.service@uhb.nhs.uk