ASSESSMENT OF WOMEN WITH GESTATION > 41 COMPLETED WEEKS BY A MIDWIFE

**Key words:** induction of labour, midwives, criteria

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>INSTRUCTION</th>
<th>CRITERIA</th>
<th>ROLE OF THE MIDWIFE</th>
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| Registered Midwives (working within King Edward Memorial Hospital for Women or the Community Midwifery Program) may assess women considered to have a prolonged pregnancy and book these women for an induction of labour (IOL) (see Clinical Guidelines, Prolonged Pregnancy) | Women with a gestation of > 41 weeks with no fetal or maternal criteria excluding them from an IOL booking by a midwife. These exclusion criteria are: | 1. Ensure the woman is informed and counselled appropriately as to the reason for this assessment.  
2. Assess the woman and her pregnancy as to the advisability of inducing labour for a prolonged pregnancy (see Clinical Guidelines, Prolonged Pregnancy).  
| **Note:** This standing order only applies to women meeting the criteria outlined opposite. | • uncertain / unreliable estimation of gestational age  
• hypertensive complication in pregnancy (e.g. pre eclampsia, eclampsia, gestational or chronic hypertension)  
• oligo / polyhydramnios  
• fetal compromise (e.g. abnormalities, intrauterine growth restriction, isoimmunisation, abnormal heart rate patterns)  
• fetal demise  
• breech presentation/ transverse, oblique or unstable lie  
• Presenting part above the pelvic inlet  
• Multiple pregnancy  
• Maternal medical conditions e.g. diabetes, renal, cardiac, pulmonary | |
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<td>• Maternal obstetric conditions e.g. previous Caesarean section or uterine surgery, antepartum haemorrhage, low lying placenta or placenta praevia, grande multiparity, poor obstetric history, previous cephalopelvic disproportion, previous precipitate labour, prolonged rupture of membranes.</td>
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