

Foley catheter balloon for pre induction cervical ripening : An randomized trial comparing 40 -ml and 80 ml volumes

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To compare the efficacy and safety of cervical ripening in term singleton pregnancies with use of 40 ml and 80 ml of Foley catheter balloon volumes. A double blind randomized controlled trial. Professorial Unit, De Soysa Hospital for Women, Colombo and ward no 2 Sri Jayawardenapura General Hospital between 1st of April 2008 and 1st of March 2009. Two hundred women with term singleton pregnancies with a modified Bishops score 6 were allocated by stratified block randomization to 40 ml and 80 ml of Foley catheter balloon inflation volumes respectively. Vaginal delivery rate, caesarean section rate, change of Bishop's score, induction to delivery interval, failed induction rate, immediate neonatal complications, maternal complications and maternal discomfort of pain. cervical ripening with Foley catheter inflation volume of 80ml was associated with higher rate of vaginal delivery (73 percent vs 58 percent , P 0.05), lower rate of caesarean section (22 percent vs 36 percent , P0.05), greater change of Bishop's score, higher rate of spontaneous onset of labour (33 percent vs 20 percent , P0.05) with quicker entry in to active phase (13.30hrs vs 15.11 hI's, P0.05), less use of oxytocin (75 percent vs 87 percent , P 0.05), lower failed induction rate (9 percent vs 20 percent , P 0.05) and higher rate of entry to active labour (90 percent vs 76percent) with no change in adverse foetal or maternal outcome. Ripening of the unfavorable cervix with foley catheter balloon inflated with 80ml provided more effective ripening, lower rate of caesarean section higher rate of spontaneous onset of labour with faster entry in to active phase, lower use of oxytocin and lower failed induction rate with no change in adverse foetal or maternal outcome.