

Table 27. Summary of Recommendations for Induction of Labor (ACOG/SMFM Obstetric Care Consensus³)

ACOG/SMFM Consensus Guidelines for Induction of Labor

Induction of labor before 41+0 weeks should be reserved for women with a maternal or fetal medical indication

Induction of labor at or after 41+0 weeks gestation is advised in order to reduce the risk of cesarean delivery and perinatal morbidity and mortality

Women undergoing induction of labor without a favorable cervix should receive cervical ripening

As long as the maternal and fetal status allow, longer durations of the latent phase (24 hours or longer) should be allowed, and oxytocin should be administered for at least 12-18 hours after rupture of membranes before declaring a “failed induction”