

Abstract

Objective

To compare the maternal, fetal and obstetric outcome after early induction versus 24 hours of expectant management in term primigravidae with unripe cervix following prelabour rupture of the membranes.

Design

Hospital based prospective randomized study.

Setting

1. Antenatal, postnatal wards (ward 9,10,18) and labour room, Teaching Hospital Peradeniya.
2. Antenatal, postnatal wards (ward 9,10) and labour room, Castle street Hospital for Women, Colombo 08.

Population

One hundred and seven primigravidae (N=107) with confirmed prelabour rupture of the membranes, seen within 6 hours of onset at completed 37 weeks to 42 weeks of gestation with unripe cervix (Bishop score < 5).

Methods

The women were randomized to two groups. The 1st group of patients (N=52) was induced with oxytocin immediately after admission (Group 01). The 2nd group of patients (N=55) were expectantly managed for 24 hours (Group 02) and induced with oxytocin if labour did not commence spontaneously. Several patients in the 2nd group progressed to spontaneous labour and some of them were augmented with oxytocin when there was poor progress.