



Effective Health Care

Elective Labor Induction

Nomination Summary Document

Results of Topic Selection Process & Next Steps

- The topic of short-term maternal and fetal outcomes and risks of elective labor induction was found to be addressed by a recent comparative effectiveness review titled *Elective Induction of Labor*. Given that the report covers this nomination, no further activity will be undertaken on this topic.
 - Caughey AB, Sundaram V, Kaimal AJ, Cheng YW, Gienger A, Little SE, Lee JF, Wong L, Shaffer BL, Tran SH, Padula A, McDonald KM, Long EF, Owens DK, Bravata DM. Maternal and Neonatal Outcomes of Elective Induction of Labor. Evidence Report/Technology Assessment No. 176. (Prepared by the Stanford University-UCSF Evidence-based Practice Center under contract No. 290-02-0017.) AHRQ Publication No. 09-E005. Rockville, MD.: Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality. March 2009. <http://www.ahrq.gov/clinic/epcix.htm>.
- The topic of long-term outcomes of elective labor induction is not feasible for a full systematic review due to the limited data available for a review at this time.

Topic Description

Nominators: 1 government agency, 1 public payer

Nomination Summary: The nominators are concerned that there may be women being induced for patient or physician convenience without medical justification. The nominators are interested in knowing more about how often this occurs, if there are differences across systems of care (e.g., Medicaid, private insurance, and uninsured patients), and health outcomes of elective labor induction including short-term harms (e.g., respiratory issues) and long-term harms (e.g., attention deficit hyperactivity disorder).

Key Questions from Nominators: None

Considerations

- This topic has two main areas of focus:
 1. Short-term maternal and fetal outcomes and risks of elective labor induction
 2. Long-term outcomes of elective labor induction
- The topic of short-term maternal and fetal outcomes and risks of elective labor induction meets EHC Program appropriateness and importance criteria. (For more information, see

[http://effectivehealthcare.ahrq.gov/index.cfm/submit-a-suggestion-for-research/how-are-research-topics-chosen/.](http://effectivehealthcare.ahrq.gov/index.cfm/submit-a-suggestion-for-research/how-are-research-topics-chosen/))

- Short-term maternal and fetal outcomes and risks of elective labor induction are addressed in a recently published AHRQ report titled *Elective Induction of Labor*. The key questions of this report include:
 1. What evidence describes the maternal risks of elective induction versus expectant management?
 2. What evidence describes the fetal/neonatal risks of elective induction versus expectant management?
 3. What is the evidence that certain physical conditions/patient characteristics are predictive of a successful induction of labor?
 4. How is a failed induction defined?

- The topic of long-term outcomes of elective labor induction meets EHC Program appropriateness and importance criteria. (For more information, see <http://effectivehealthcare.ahrq.gov/aboutUs.cfm?abouttype=program#Topic.>)

- No synthesized literature, trials, or observational studies published since 2006 on long-term outcomes of elective labor induction were identified. Therefore, the topic of long-term outcomes of elective labor induction is not feasible for a full systematic review due to the limited data available for a review at this time.