INTRACERVICAL FOLEY BULB PLACEMENT FOR CERVICAL RIPENING

EQUIPMENT/SUPPLIES LIST:

1. Graves speculum
2. Betadine swabs
3. Ring forceps
4. 16 French Foley catheter with 30 cc balloon
5. 30 cc syringe and 19 G needle
6. 30 cc vial Normal Saline
7. Scissors
8. Umbilical tape
9. Sterile gloves
10. OR Marker pen

**PROCEDURE:** The procedure is performed on an exam table with the patient in dorsal lithotomy position. The patient should have a baseline vaginal examination to determine cervical status and length. The estimated cervical length can be used to mark the Foley catheter by making a mark the appropriate distance from the proximal end of the balloon (optional). The nurse or assistant should draw up the 30 ccs of saline and test the balloon to assure intactness. A vaginal speculum is introduced in normal fashion. The cervix is visualized and cleaned off with Betadine solution. At this point, a 16 French Foley catheter is inserted. The balloon is inflated with 30 ccs of sterile saline by the nurse or assistant in a slow fashion testing the resistance. Confirm proper placement with no evidence of bleeding or discharge of fluid. The speculum can be removed once the proper catheter placement is confirmed. The catheter is tied off with two ties of umbilical tape at the level of the introitus and the distal portion removed with the scissors. The end of the catheter is rolled up in the vagina to hold the catheter inside the vagina. The patient is then sent home with instructions.