

UF HEALTH SHANDS HOSPITAL
DEPT OF NURSING AND PATIENT SERVICES

GUIDELINE NUMBER: GL-LDPR-AM-02
CATEGORY: Admin Management
DATE: February 2026
NEXT REVIEW DATE: February 2027

TITLE: Scheduling Patients for 'Induction of Labor' on Labor & Delivery

PURPOSE: To provide safe quality care of the perinatal patient through guidelines for the effective management of the labor induction schedule, meeting both the obstetrical needs of the maternal patient and customer service objectives.

RATIONALE:

The American College of Obstetricians and Gynecologists (ACOG), The Joint Commission, the National Quality Forum, and the March of Dimes Foundation have all recommended the adoption of protocols to limit elective delivery prior to 39 0/7 weeks of gestation.

SPECIAL INSTRUCTIONS:

- I. Scheduling an Induction of Labor
 - A. To schedule an induction of labor, physicians, midwives, and advanced practice nurses will create a case-request in Optime, indicating preferred date, diagnosis, and patient class. 3rd trimester labs should be completed.
 - B. Case-requests for inductions will be requested:
 - a. Sunday through Thursday - goal of no more than 5 cases each day
 - b. Saturdays no more than 3 approved cases per day
 - C. Case-requests in the Optime Depot will be loaded on the Snap Board by the Labor & Delivery Management team daily. Charge nurses can add cases that occur on holidays or weekends. At this time Support Technicians (clerks) will not participate in managing the Induction Schedule in Optime except to print ready schedules when requested.
 - D. If more than 5 case-requests exist for one day, the following steps will be undertaken to determine the outcome:
 1. Evaluate all cases for previous delivery
 - a. If the patient was previously delivered, the case can be placed back in the Depot to be canceled by the Labor & Delivery Management team, thus opening a slot.
 2. If all cases are undelivered, determine which case was scheduled last.
 3. Check the Audit Trail in the case-request to determine which provider created the case.
 4. Send an email to the provider and copy the Labor & Delivery Nurse Manager requesting re-evaluation based on over-booking. If a short time-frame exists, a phone call to the provider may be necessary.
 5. Offer the provider other options for open days on the schedule.
 6. Reschedule the patient based on feedback from the provider.
 - a. Open the case request and edit the data field 'Requested Date' to the new date. Click 'accept' and then move the case onto the correct date.

- ## II. Managing the daily induction schedule

- ### III. Contacting the Patient for Admission

- #### IV. Induction Cases Delayed due to High Census, Staffing, or Patient Issues

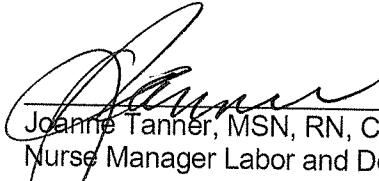
- KEYWORDS:** Induction, non-stress test, labor, schedule, biophysical profile, case request

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REFERENCES:

American College of Obstetrics & Gynecology (2009). Induction of Labor. Practice Bulletin 107. Obstetrics & Gynecology. 114(2):386-397, AUG 2009 <https://www.acog.org/clinical/clinical-guidance/practice-bulletin/articles/2009/08/induction-of-labor>

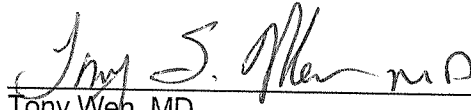
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