

Table of Contents

Acknowledgments	iv
Executive Summary.....	vi
Making the Case	1
Definitions for a Common Language	3
Accepted Indications for Delivery <39 Weeks Gestation	3
Elective Deliveries: A Growing Concern	5
What are the Risks of Deliveries Before 39 Weeks?	6
Neonatal Outcomes of Early Term Births	7
Other Studies Evaluating Neonatal Morbidity	10
Maternal Risk	12
Cost Analysis.....	12
Quality Improvement Interventions to Reduce Elective Births <39 Weeks ...	13
Implementation Strategy.....	19
The Big Picture	21
Rapid Cycle QI Methodology: Mobilize, Assess, Plan, Implement, Track (MAP-IT).....	22
Implementation Checklist.....	23
Barriers and Strategies to Mitigate Barriers.....	25
Sample Scheduling Form	27
Scheduling Algorithm	28
Sample Policy and Procedure	29
Guidelines for Informed Consent Discussions.....	31
Data Collection and QI Measurement.....	33
Data Collection.....	35
Selecting Quality Measures.....	36
QI Data Collection Form for Singleton Scheduled Inductions and Cesarean Sections	37
Measure Specifications and Guidelines	38
Comparison of National Specifications for Medical Conditions that May Justify a Scheduled Delivery Prior to 39 Weeks Gestation	42
Data Collection for Quality Measurement	43
Clinician Education	45
Clinician Slide Presentation.....	47
Clinician Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs).....	48
Patient Education.....	51
Key Patient Education Messages.....	53
Patient Education Talking Points.....	53
Patient Education Resource Materials.....	54
Common Patient Questions.....	55
Other Questions.....	55
Appendices	57
Appendix A – Other Sample Forms	59
Appendix B – Hospital Case Studies.....	64
Appendix C – QI Implementation Tools.....	69
Appendix D – Letters of Support.....	75
Appendix E – Clinician Slide Presentation.....	83
References	123
References by Topic.....	125
References in Order of Citation.....	127
Website Resource Links	130

Table 1: Examples of Medical Indications for Delivery Prior to 39 Weeks Gestation.	4
Table 2: Complications of Elective Deliveries Between 37 and 39 Weeks	6
Table 3: Risk of NICU Admissions for Elective Deliveries at 37-39 Weeks (HCA).	8
Table 4: Timing of Elective Repeat Cesarean Delivery at Term and Neonatal Outcomes (MFM Network).	8
Table 5: Adverse Neonatal Outcomes.	10
Table 6: Selected Maternal Outcome Data Before and After Initiation of the IHC <39 Week Elective Delivery Reduction Program (1999-2000 and 2001-2006).	12
Table 7: Stillbirth Data from the Intermountain Healthcare Elective Induction Reduction Before 39 Weeks QI Project (Before and After Periods)	14
Table 8: Reduction of Induction Risks: A Departmental QI Project.	15
Table 9: Examples of Quality Measures.	36
Table 10: Comparison of National Specifications for Medical Conditions that May Justify a Scheduled Delivery Prior to 39 Weeks Gestation	42
Table 11: Data Element Sources with Combined Rankings of Availability and Reliability.	44
Table 12: Plan-Do-Study-Act (PDSA) Method Summary	72

Figure 1: Change in Distribution of Birth by Gestational Age: United States, 1990-2006	5
Figure 2: U.S. Cesarean Section and Labor Induction Rates Among Singleton Live Births by Week of Gestation, 1992 and 2002	5
Figure 3: Rise in Induction of Labor by Racial Groups in the U.S.	6
Figure 4: Higher Ventilator Use among Infants Delivered at 37 Weeks Gestation	7
Figure 5: Increased NICU Admissions Among Infants Delivered at 37 Weeks Gestation	7
Figure 6: Complication Rates in Infants of Scheduled Repeat Cesarean Birth by Gestational Age (Weeks)	9
Figure 7: Odds Ratios for Complications in Infants of Scheduled Repeat Cesarean Birth by Gestational Age (Weeks)	9
Figure 8: Percent of Elective Deliveries Before 39 Weeks Gestation.	13
Figure 9: Percent of Ohio Births at 36 to 38 Weeks Induced Without Medical or Obstetric Indication.	16
Figure 10: Ohio Births at 36 to 38 Weeks Gestation Following Induction Without Apparent Medical Indication for Delivery, by OPQC Member Status	17
Figure 11: Gestational Age Distribution of Births at OPQC Member Hospitals, by Month	17
Figure 12: Stillbirths Among OPQC Participating Hospitals	18
Figure 13: Graphic Overview of Key Components	21
Figure 14: MAP-IT Methodology.	22

Figure 15: Scheduling Algorithm	28
Figure 16: The Joint Commission Work Flow for: PC-01 – Elective Deliveries <39 Weeks	43
Figure 17: Percentage of Tallahassee Memorial Hospital Deliveries by Gestational Age	67
Figure 18: Blank Ishikawa “Fishbone” Diagram.	70
Figure 19: Example of a Completed Ishikawa “Fishbone” Diagram	70
Figure 20: Plan-Do-Study-Act Cycle	71

Form 1: Scheduling	27
Form 2: QI Data Collection Form for Singleton Scheduled Inductions and Cesarean Sections	37
Form 3: March of Dimes Induction/Cesarean Section Delivery Scheduling Form	59
Form 4: Tallahassee Scheduling Process.	61
Form 5: Tallahassee Consent	63
Form 6: Change Project MAP-IT Worksheet.	69