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General Informed Consent for Risk Factor

Identify Risk: Prolonged rupture of membranes *No active labor established.*

Explain medical treatment/procedure for the risk in easily understood language: What is proposed/ What is available alternative

Medical protocol would usually be to attempt hospital induction of labor using pitocin or cytotec if the baby appears to be healthy and has reactive heartbeat. Baby's heartbeat would need to be monitored. This is not without risk. Medical protocol would be to begin IV treatment of antibiotics.

If mother is healthy and baby's heartbeat is reactive, some mothers choose self-induction of labor at home as an alternative. This can involve getting acupuncture treatments, using lovemaking to encourage labor, having the midwife do a cervical sweep of the membranes, using nipple stimulation with electric breast pump, ingesting herbs and/or homeopathics and sometimes even castor oil. Baby's heartbeat would need to be monitored with the onset of significant uterine activity. Natural self-induction at home can often take greater than 24 hours to establish active labor. This is not without risk, but there is little other than anecdotal documentation on such inductions.

The midwife's experience with the risk factor was discussed as

I, Laura, have experience helping prolonged rupture of membranes have good outcomes at home with naturally induced labors.

Client was asked if they had questions and their questions were answered:

Yes/No More....

Signature:

"I have read the above and understand the risks of the situation and have had opportunity to ask questions about this. By signing this I am claiming that I am choosing not to accept a medically induced labor and I am also accepting to attempt natural induction at home. I understand that I or my midwife can change my decision at any point. _____ I take full responsibility for the outcomes of my choices for myself and my baby."

MOTHER'S NAME

DATE

MIDWIFE NAME

DATE