Further Information

We endeavour to provide an excellent service at all times, but should you have any concerns please, in the first instance, raise these with the Matron, Senior Midwife or Manager on duty.

If they cannot resolve your concern, please contact our Patient Experience team on 01932 723553 or email asp-tr.patient.advice@nhs.net. If you remain concerned, the team can also advise on how to make a formal complaint.

You can also share your feedback with our Maternity and Neonatal Voices Partnership (MNVP) via email asphmvp@gmail.com

We can provide interpreters for a variety of languages, information in larger print or other formats (e.g. audio) - please call us on 01932 723553.

You can use Text Relay to turn telephone communications into text. Use the Relay UK app on your phone, tablet or PC. You can also use Relay UK via Minicom or Uniphone.

اگر نیاز به ترجمه دارید، لطفا با شماره 01932 723553 تماس بگیرید.

ਜੇ ਤੁਹਾਨੂੰ ਤਰਜਮੇ ਦੀ ਲੋੜ ਹੈ ਤਾਂ ਕਿਰਪਾ ਕਰਕੇ ਇਸ ਨੰਬਰ ਤੇ ਫੋਨ ਕਰੋ: 01932 723553

اگر آپ اس کا اُردو زبان میں ترجمہ چاہتے ہیں، تو براہِ کرم اس فون نمبر 01932 723553 پر رابطہ کریں

Se precisa de uma tradução por favor contacte: 01932 723553

আপনার অনুবাদের দরকার হলে এখানে যোগাযোগ করুন : 01932 723553

यदि आपको अनुवाद की ज़रूरत है तो कृपया इस नंबर पर फोन करें: 01932 723553

Jeżeli chcemy, aby te informacje w innym języku, proszę zadzwonić 01932 723553

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Misoprostol (Angusta ®) for Induction of Labour – Frequently Asked Questions

Maternity

Published: June 2026

Patient information

What is misoprostol?

Misoprostol is an oral tablet (medication that you swallow) which can be used to induce (start) labour. It is a type of medication known as a prostaglandin, which is similar to a substance naturally produced in the body to cause the uterus (womb) to contract.

Why am I being offered misoprostol?

There is currently a national shortage of dinoprostone (often known as Propess ® or Prostin ®), which are the medications normally used at this hospital for induction of labour. So that we can continue to offer a safe service, we have changed our guidelines to be able to offer misoprostol instead to women whose waters have broken but who need medication to help start their contractions.

How will I be given the misoprostol?

Misoprostol is given as a tablet for you to swallow. You may be given up to 3 doses, each one 2 hours apart, if your labour hasn't started.

What happens next?

If your labour hasn't started after 3 doses of Misoprostol, your induction will continue following our normal pathway, which is a hormone drip. This will not be started until at least 4 hours after your last misoprostol tablet.

Is misoprostol safe for me and my baby?

Misoprostol is a safe medication which has been used for many years and is used for induction of labour in other hospitals. Any time a woman is having an induction of labour we monitor her and her baby very closely, by taking observations, checking the contractions, and monitoring the baby's heart rate. This will be the same with misoprostol.

Occasionally, induction medication can cause the uterus to contract more frequently than intended. This can sometimes affect your baby's wellbeing. You and your baby will be monitored closely throughout the induction process and, if excessive contractions occur, no further doses will be given. An injection of a medicine called terbutaline may be given to help relax the uterus and reduce the frequency of contractions.

What if I am still not sure about taking misoprostol?

If you have any questions or concerns, please speak to the midwife or doctor who is looking after you who will be able to answer your questions and discuss other options.