



Medical Reasons for Induction

Reasons for inducing labor may include one or more of the following conditions:

- ✓ The placenta begins to separate from the inner wall of the uterus before the baby is born (abruptio placentae).
- ✓ Infection in the uterus (chorioamnionitis).
- ✓ High blood pressure caused by the pregnancy (gestational hypertension or more serious conditions known as preeclampsia or eclampsia).
- ✓ Premature rupture of membranes (the bag of water has released too early).
- ✓ Postterm pregnancy (more than 42 weeks).
- ✓ Mother's health problems such as kidney or lung disease.
- ✓ The baby is not growing as he or she should and/or the environment inside the uterus is no longer safe for the baby.

(Note: A large or even very large baby is not given as a medical reason for induction.)

Source: American College of Obstetricians and Gynecologists (ACOG). (2009, reaffirmed 2015). Practice bulletin #107 – Induction of labor. *Obstetrics & Gynecology*, 114(2), part 1, 386-397.