

# Balloon catheter: Preparing for your induction



the women's  
the royal women's hospital

Today, you have gone home with a balloon catheter inserted into your cervix. This will help to open your cervix, getting it ready for your induction of labour.

## What to expect

The balloon catheter is used to apply pressure to your cervix. It helps to open it, preparing it for the next phase of your labour. The catheter is left in place and will be removed the following day. You can move around normally while it is in place.

Tomorrow, you will receive a phone call to let you know when to return to hospital to have your balloon catheter removed.

## What to look out for

Please come back to the hospital if you have any of the following symptoms:

- significant pain or discomfort
- bleeding from your vagina
- difficulty doing a wee
- your labour starts and you are having regular contractions
- your waters break (sometimes called ruptured membranes)
- your balloon catheter falls out
- you feel your baby's movements have changed.

## Who to contact

If you have any other concerns, call the Assessment Centre Midwife

Tel: (03) 8345 3635 (24 hours, 7 days)

If you are in an emergency and urgently worried call an ambulance

Tel: 000

## Do you need an interpreter?



If you need an interpreter, remember you can ask for one.

## Related information on the Women's website

- Induction of labour  
[thewomens.org.au/fs-iol](http://thewomens.org.au/fs-iol)

Disclaimer: This fact sheet provides general information only. For specific advice about your healthcare needs, you should seek advice from your health professional. The Royal Women's Hospital does not accept any responsibility for loss or damage arising from your reliance on this fact sheet instead of seeing a health professional. If you require urgent medical attention, please contact your nearest emergency department.  
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