



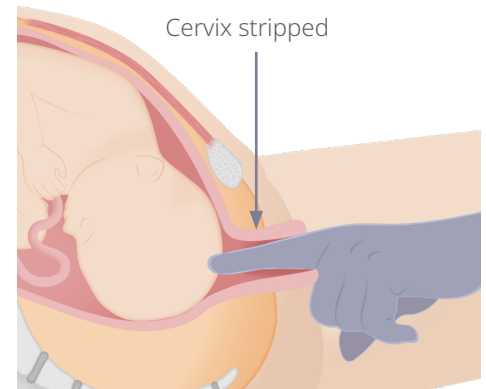
INDUCTION AND AUGMENTATION OF LABOR



Membrane stripping/sweeping

Healthcare provider inserts a gloved finger into the cervix and separates the amniotic sac from the uterine wall.

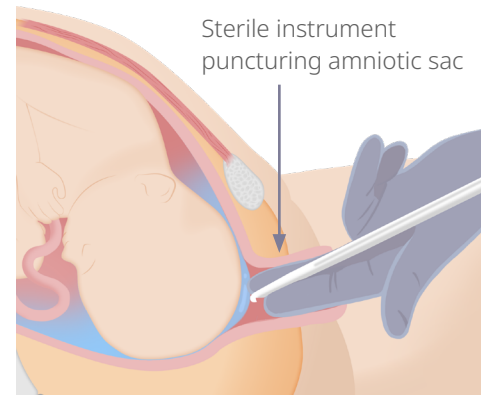
- **Risks:** discomfort, cramping, infection, accidental rupture of membranes, and slight bleeding
- **Nursing interventions:** Provide emotional support. Monitor for signs of infection or rupture of membranes.
- **Client education:** Explain the procedure and its purpose. Discuss signs of infection or rupture of membranes that require immediate attention.



Amniotomy/AROM: artificial rupture of membranes

Healthcare provider uses a sterile instrument to puncture the amniotic sac to release the amniotic fluid.

- **Risks:** increased risk of infection, umbilical cord prolapse, placental abruption, chorioamnionitis, and fetal distress
- **Nursing interventions:** Monitor amniotic fluid and fetal heart rate. Assess for signs of infection.
- **Client education:** Explain the procedure, its purpose, and signs of infection/unusual vaginal discharge.



Cervical ripening

Aids cervix softening for labor dilation, done via mechanical or pharmacological means.

- Prostaglandin medication administered vaginally or orally to ripen cervix and stimulate contractions
- Mechanical dilation uses catheter or balloon device inserted into cervix to dilate cervix and stimulate contractions.
- **Risks:**
 - **Pharmaceutical:** uterine hyperstimulation leading to fetal distress, uterine rupture, and nausea.
 - **Mechanical:** discomfort, cramping, and risk of infection
- **Nursing interventions:** Monitor uterine contractions and fetal heart rate, assess for uterine hyperstimulation, monitor for signs of infection.
- **Client education:** Describe procedure method/purpose, potential discomfort, side effects, and signs of infection.

Oxytocin (Pitocin) infusion

Administered intravenously to induce or augment contractions.

- **Risks:** uterine hyperstimulation, fetal distress, and uterine rupture
- **Nursing interventions:** Titrate oxytocin according to uterine response. Monitor fetal heart rate and uterine contractions.
- **Client education:** Explain purpose of oxytocin infusion, potential risks such as uterine hyperstimulation, and how to communicate concerns.

