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IOL and Caesareans Cancellations Protocol Policy

Hutt Maternity Policies provide guidance for the midwives and medical staff working in Hutt Maternity Services. Please discuss policies relevant to your care with your Lead Maternity Carer.

At times the Birthing Unit and ward are full at 0730/0800, and this causes issues with IOL and elective C/S booked for that day.

Sometimes we too readily cancel incoming IOL and C/S without assessing the potential movement across the whole floor especially around discharges. We also need to consider starting IOL later than planned.

In the event that the unit looks full:

1. Do not cancel IOL and C/S at 0730 or 0800
2. Wait for a consultant round for potential discharges
3. Re-assessment by 10.30-11.00am and cancel IOL, C/Section following that if the unit is still unable to accommodate.
4. If the C/Section list is in the morning, advise theatre to delay. The consultant then needs to decide on C/Section by 9 am.
4. For low risk patients consider prostins the day before.

Informed Consent

The right of a consumer to make an informed choice and give informed consent, including the right to refuse medical treatment, is enshrined in law and in the Code of Health and Disability Consumers' Rights in New Zealand. This means that a woman can choose to decline treatment, referral to another practitioner, or transfer of clinical responsibility. If this occurs follow the process map on page 18 of the Referral Guidelines (Ministry of Health, 2012).