Outcomes of Term Induction of Labor in Trial of Labor After Cesarean Delivery: Analysis of a Modern Obstetric Cohort

Justin R. Lappen, MD, David N. Hackney, MD, MS, and Jennifer L. Bailit, MD, MPH

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1. Describe the current policy at your institution regarding induction of labor for trial of labor after cesarean delivery (TOLAC). Review the American College of Obstetricians and Gynecologists’ (the College) Practice Bulletin No. 115: Vaginal Birth After Previous Cesarean Delivery (see Obstet Gynecol 2010;115:450–63) and state the similarities and differences between the College’s guidelines and your institution’s policy.

2. The authors state that the vaginal birth after cesarean delivery (VBAC) rate (proportion of all women with a prior cesarean who have a vaginal delivery) declined to 9% in 2011. What proportion of women with a prior cesarean delivery undergo a TOLAC at your institution? What is the current VBAC rate?

3. Identify the primary and secondary objectives of this study. Outline the authors’ rationale for conducting this study and discuss whether or not you agree.

4. Identify the study design used by the investigators and discuss the strengths and weaknesses of the study methods, including inclusion and exclusion criteria, definition of expectant management, outcomes, and analytic approach.

5. Summarize the key study findings. Compare and contrast these findings with those recently reported by Palatnik and Grobman (see Am J Obstet Gynecol 2015;212:358.e1-6).

6. Discuss possible reasons for the conflicting results regarding failed TOLAC between this study and the Palatnik and Grobman study discussed above. Outline a plan to help resolve these differences.

7. Drawing from the available literature, including this article and the article by Palatnik and Grobman, when should women desiring a TOLAC undergo an induction of labor?