Outpatient Induction-Ambulatory Obstetrics
Miss Arpita Ray, Senior Fellow in Clinical Leadership(Obs & Gynae)
Barking, Havering, Redbridge University Hospital (BHRUT)

Back ground and Need for change
BHRUT serves 70,000 population of North East London
High risk immigrant population, unemployment and social deprivation are characteristics of the area
2010, Trust was highlighted by care quality commission for several areas of concern
There were occurrence of several very poor clinical outcomes in maternity services
Ambulatory obstetrics project was initiated to improve patient flow, reduced inpatient stay and improve patient experience

Outline of the project
Low risk pregnant patients those who were coming for induction of labour for post-dated pregnancy were checked if they were suitable for outpatient induction. Eligibility criteria were based on communication skills, obstetrics & medical history, transport facility and travel distance from hospital.
A patient survey was conducted to check acceptability of Outpatient Induction among patient population and positive feedback was obtained.
Project was launched as QIPP initiative to reduce bed stay in hospital, create provision of efficient care Outpatient Induction care pathway, better choice for patients, better patient experience.

Aims and Objectives.
Reduced patient stay and improved patient experience

Challenges and steps taken to overcome them
Awareness development - Symposium was organised to discuss Outpatient Induction by external speakers of medical and midwifery background.
Confidence development - share experience of other hospitals.
Stake holders approval - organised several group meetings with key people of other provider trusts for learning and sharing from their experience.
Quality control - A guideline and patient information leaflet was created and were approved by relevant committees.
Practical hands on training session was organised to develop staff confidence about insertion of Prostaglandins.
Guideline, patient information leaflet, checklists were externally reviewed by two independent reviewers for quality control and risk assessment.
Outpatient Induction was started and regular audit of practice was initiated and patient satisfaction survey commenced.

Achievements-
This project was a QIPP initiative through NHS London’s clinical leadership programme. It has improved patient experience, avoided unnecessary delay and waiting time.
Outpatient Induction is an efficient way of managing induction of labour in low risk pregnancy avoiding inpatient admission.
Though there was initial resistance from the care providers about implementation of the project but sharing and dissemination of knowledge has helped to change the attitude of the people regarding implementation of this service.

Audit of Outpatient Induction. Patient satisfaction survey showed 100% satisfaction of the patient

Month | Number of patient | Place of Induction | Outcome | Patient Satisfaction
--- | --- | --- | --- | ---
December, 2012 | 5 | Antenatal ward | 4SVD 1LSCS | 100%
January, 2013 | 0 | NA | NA | NA
February, 2013 | 3 | 2 Antenatal ward, IOAU | 3SVD | 100%

References:
NICE Guideline of Induction of labour, CQC report, 2010