

Women's and children's division
Maternity and Anaesthetic services

Guidelines for Antacid Prophylaxis for Women in Labour

Low Risk Labour

No Antacid Prophylaxis

High Risk Labour

Ranitidine 150mg po 6 hourly
(Until delivery of products of
conception is complete)

Elective Caesarean Section

NBM for 6 hours prior to surgery

Night before surgery

Ranitidine 150mgs po

Morning of surgery

Metoclopramide 10mgs po
and Ranitidine 150mgs po

15 minutes before surgery

0.3M sodium citrate 30mls

Emergency Caesarean Section

Before surgery

0.3M sodium Citrate 30mls and
Ranitidine 50mgs IV
(unless oral dose given within
preceding 6 hours)

High Risk Labour includes

Increased risk of operative delivery

Breech presentation

Trial of Scar

Multiple pregnancy

Large baby

Epidural analgesia

Opioid analgesia

Pre eclampsia/eclampsia

IUGR/Meconium present

Increased risk of loss of consciousness

Diabetes mellitus

Epilepsy

Cardiac abnormality

Increased risk of haemorrhage

Diabetes mellitus

Epilepsy

Cardiac abnormalities

References

Pre-operative fasting – 60 years on from Mendelson. BJA – CEACCP
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Intrapartum Care, care of healthy women and their babies during
childbirth. NICE Clinical Guideline, June 2008