

PROTOCOL #19 - Maternal Fetal Medicine, University of New Mexico

**ASSESSMENT OF FETAL MATURITY
PRIOR TO ELECTIVE CESAREAN DELIVERY
OR ELECTIVE INDUCTION OF LABOR**

General

The assessment of fetal maturity is an important consideration in determining the timing of an elective cesarean delivery or elective induction of labor.

Criteria to be used:

1. Fetal heart tones documented for 20 weeks by nonelectronic fetoscope or for 30 weeks by Doppler ultrasound.
2. Thirty-six weeks have elapsed since a positive pregnancy test (serum or urine).
3. An ultrasound measurement of the crown-rump length obtained at 6-11 weeks of gestation supporting a gestational age of 39 weeks or more.
4. Clinical history , physical and ultrasound examinations performed at 12-20 weeks supporting a current gestational age of 39 weeks or more.

CONSULTATION: Twenty-four hour consultation is available by calling the Maternal Fetal Medicine service at the University of New Mexico Hospital. 1-888-866-7257.