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Objective: To compare the outcomes of expectant versus active management of patients presenting with premature rupture of membranes (PROM).

Design: Observational case-control study over a period of 30 months.

Setting: King Abdulaziz University Hospital, Jeddah, Saudi Arabia.

Subjects: All patients with no other factors other than PROM were included in the present study. Each patient was matched with a control case who had started labor with intact membranes.

Outcome Measures: Duration of labor, fetal distress, intrapartum pyrexia, rate of cesarean section delivery, and Apgar scores at birth.

Conclusion: In the absence of other maternal and/or fetal factors, PROM does not seem to constitute additional risks. Furthermore, expectant management of PROM until spontaneous uterine contractions increased the chances of normal delivery without an increase in fetal and/or maternal morbidity.