Material and methods:
- The study was performed between May 2013 and October 2013 at 6 clinical centres.
- 96 women with singleton pregnancy after 36 week of gestation with head longitudinal position of the baby and Bishop score < 4 were included in the data analysis.
- 35 patients (36.5%) had Caesarean section reported in their medical history.
- Assessment of the primary objective and success of cervical ripening procedure was based on the Bishop score. Safety data collection was focused on fetal hypoxia, uterine hypertonus, clinical signs of infection and other potential adverse effects related to the use of Dilapan-S®. In addition, patients’ satisfaction was evaluated by personal patient questionnaire.

Results:
- Average number of inserted dilators was 2 (range from 2 to 5).
- Bishop score increase (measured on the 10 point scale) was +3.23 points (from 2.81 to 6.13). By 3.7 in group of women without previous C. section and by 2.7 in group of women with previous C. section, resp. (p-value) ≤ 0.003.
- Successful preinduction rate (Bishop score > 5): 86.5%
Conclusion:

• High efficacy and safety, even in women with previous C. section, were confirmed.
• Low incidence of the uterine activity promotes patient excellent satisfaction.
• The use of higher number of dilators improved clinical outcomes in terms of gain in Bishop score as well as in terms of achieving of vaginal births. Higher number of inserted dilators was not accompanied by more pain during insertion and did not affect ability to rest or sleep during preinduction.
• Achieving shorter preinduction time was not among the objectives of this study, but from the presented impact of the number of dilators on Bishop score can be assumed that higher number of dilators could potentially lead to shortening of the preinduction time.

2. Zahumensky J et al: The impact of the number of pieces of osmotic dilator Dilapan-S® used for cervical ripening on the course and outcome of labor. Poster presentation, 13th World Congress in Fetal Medicine, June-July 2014, Nice, France
3. Vlk R et al: Efficacy and safety of the osmotic dilator Dilapan-S® for cervical ripening in women with/without C. section. Poster presentation, 13th World Congress in Fetal Medicine, June-July 2014, Nice, France