Fishbone Cause and Effect Diagram

**Fishbone Diagram:**
A fishbone diagram may help leaders identify the effect various components have on a problem. This analysis can support leaders’ efforts to develop their implementation plan.

**Figure 18: Blank Ishikawa “Fishbone” Diagram**

![Blank Ishikawa “Fishbone” Diagram](image)

**Figure 19: Example of a Completed Ishikawa “Fishbone” Diagram**

*Note: Components of the diagram will vary at individual hospital.*

![Completed Ishikawa “Fishbone” Diagram](image)

### Problem:
Infants are being electively delivered prior to 39 weeks.

- **People**
  - Improve knowledge, attitudes, and practices of clinicians, women, & childbirth educators
  - Need to update education materials for both clinicians and patients

- **Process**
  - Improve policies and procedures including scheduling guidelines
  - Improve clinicians’ awareness of the risks of elective deliveries prior to 39 weeks
  - Improve the amount of feedback clinicians receive on the outcomes of early term infants who are electively delivered, e.g., number admitted to the Neonatal Intensive Care Unit (NICU)

- **Equipment**
  - Improve informed consent process for elective inductions
  - Improve internal incident report and review process to include elective deliveries prior to 39 weeks
  - Need to follow-up with clinicians who do not comply with hospital policies and procedures

- **Materials**
- **Environment**
- **Management**