

## Getting Your Skin Ready for Surgery- Pediatric

Your child needs a chlorhexidine gluconate (CHG) treatment before surgery to help prevent infection. Everyone has germs on their skin. These germs do not usually cause problems; but, surgery can increase the chance of infection. This is why it is important to bathe with CHG the night before surgery.

Depending on the type of surgery, your child may get a CHG treatment the night before surgery. Your child will then get a CHG treatment the next day, at the hospital.

If having surgery during your hospital stay, the nursing staff will do a CHG treatment the night before and morning of surgery. Your child may also receive a daily treatment with CHG while they are in the hospital to help reduce the risk of infection.

If your child was told to bathe at home the night before with the CHG cloths, please follow these directions.

**Do not** follow the instructions on the back of the package.

**Do not** put the CHG cloths in the microwave.

**Do not** apply the cloths directly to the face, head, or genital area.

**Do not** use any other hair care products except for shampoo.

**Do not** rinse or wipe off the CHG after using the cloths. It is normal for the skin to feel sticky.

**Do not** use lotion, makeup, or deodorant.

**Do not** shave or wax 3 days before surgery.

**Do not** flush the CHG cloths down the toilet.

**Do not** use the CHG cloths if you are allergic.

### How to Use the CHG Cloths

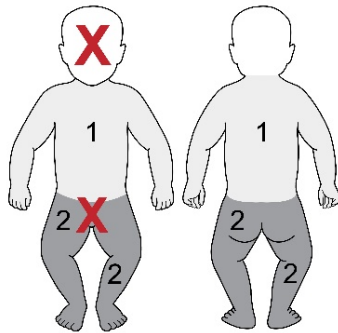
1. The night before surgery, your child can shower or bathe as he/she normally would with soap and water. Be sure to use a clean washcloth or new sponge/loofa. Wash his/her hair with shampoo only. **Do not shave.**
2. Dry your child with a clean towel and dress him/her in clean clothes. Let your child's skin dry for about 1 hour before using the cloths.
3. Open CHG cloth package, remove cloths, and place them on a clean surface.
4. Wipe your child's skin as shown in the picture. Use one wipe for each area of skin as shown by the numbers on the picture.
5. It is important to wipe the skin folds where the legs meet the body.
6. Your child should put on clean underwear and clothes. Be sure that pillowcases, bedsheets, comfort items are all washed and clean.

**\*If you do not have the CHG cloths, please use regular soap to bathe your child the night before. Wash his/her hair with shampoo.**

### Tips for warming cloths at home:

- Do not microwave the cloths
- Place sealed packages in warm water
- Sit on the sealed packages to warm

## Less than 22 Pounds (10 kg)



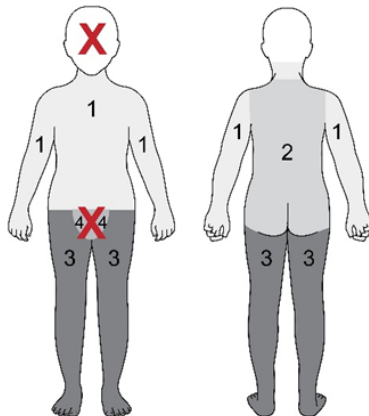
### CHG Cloth 1

- Neck, chest, arms
- Back

### CHG Cloth 2

- Legs
- Groin area (skin fold between legs and genitals but not the genitals)
- Buttocks (including the crease)

## 22 up to 66 Pounds (10 up to 30 kg)



### CHG Cloth 1

- Neck, chest arms

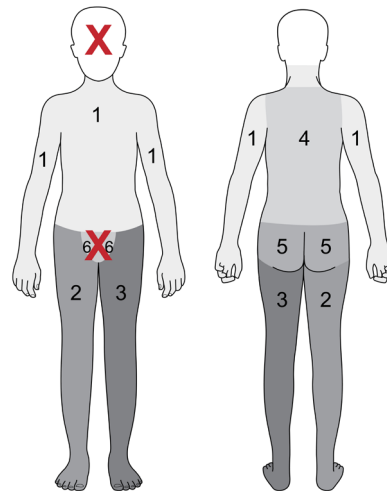
### CHG Cloth 2

- Back, buttocks (including the crease)

### CHG Cloth 3

- Legs

## 66 Pounds or More (30 kg or More)



### CHG Cloth 1

- Neck, chest, arms

### CHG Cloth 2

- Right leg

### CHG Cloth 3

- Left leg

### CHG Cloth 4

- Back

### CHG Cloth 5

- Buttocks (including the crease)

### CHG Cloth 6

- Groin area (skin fold between legs and genitals but not the genitals)

Your health care team may have given you this information as part of your care. If so, please use it and call if you have any questions. If this information was not given to you as part of your care, please check with your doctor. This is not medical advice. This is not to be used for diagnosis or treatment of any medical condition. Because each person's health needs are different, you should talk with your doctor or others on your health care team when using this information. If you have an emergency, please call 911. Copyright © 10/2020. University of Wisconsin Hospitals and Clinics Authority. All rights reserved. Produced by the Department of Nursing. HF#7947