

## 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 before surgery. Please follow these instructions.

**If you do not have the CHG cloths or are allergic to CHG, please use regular soap to bathe the night before. Wash hair with shampoo only.**

### Using CHG Cloths Correctly

- **Do not** follow the instructions on the back of the package.
- **Do not** apply CHG directly to face, head, or genital area.
- **Do not** use any other hair care products except for shampoo.
- **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** rinse or wipe off the CHG after using the cloths. It is normal for the skin to feel sticky.

### Tips for warming cloths at home:

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

### How to Use the CHG Cloths

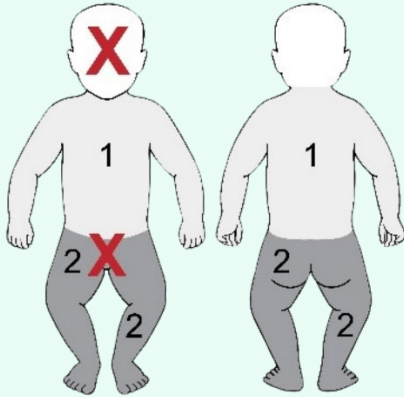
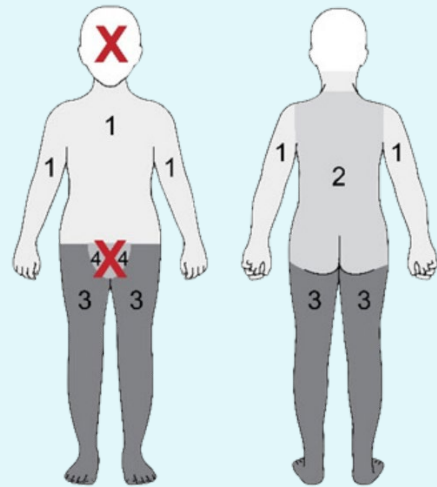
1. The night before surgery, shower, or bathe as normal with soap and water. Use a clean washcloth or new sponge. **Do not shave.**
2. Dry with a clean towel and dress in clean clothes. Let skin dry for 1 hour before using the cloths to reduce skin irritation.
3. Wipe skin as shown in the picture on the next page. Use one wipe for each area of skin as shown by the numbers on the picture.
4. It is important to wipe the skin folds where the legs meet the body.
5. After using the wipes put on clean underwear and clothes. Be sure that pillowcases, bedsheets, comfort items are all washed and clean.

### How to Use Liquid CHG Soap

1. The night before surgery, shower, or bathe as normal with soap and water. Use a clean washcloth or new sponge. **Do not shave.**
2. Turn off or step out of the stream of water.
3. Wet a clean washcloth and apply CHG soap to washcloth.
4. With CHG washcloth, wash skin from neck to toe, including belly button. Cover all skin areas one at a time. **Do not rinse.**
5. Apply a second layer of soap with a clean washcloth.
6. Leave CHG soap on skin for 1 minute (sing happy birthday two times slowly), so it can absorb into skin.
7. Rinse with warm water. Do not scrub. Dry with clean towel. Dress in clean pajamas and sleep on clean sheets.

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 © 2/2024. University of Wisconsin Hospitals and Clinics Authority. All rights reserved. Produced by the Department of Nursing. HF#7947

## CHG Cloth Instructions

Weight	Directions	Cleaning Area
<b>Less than 22 Pounds (10 kg)</b>	<b>CHG Cloth 1</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Neck, chest, arms</li> <li>• Back</li> </ul> <b>CHG Cloth 2</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Legs</li> <li>• Groin area (skin fold between legs and genitals but not the genitals)</li> <li>• Buttocks (including the crease)</li> </ul>	
<b>22 up to 66 Pounds (10 up to 30 kg)</b>	<b>CHG Cloth 1</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Neck, chest arms</li> </ul> <b>CHG Cloth 2</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Back, buttocks (including the crease)</li> </ul> <b>CHG Cloth 3</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Legs</li> </ul> <b>CHG Cloth 4</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Groin area (skin fold between legs and genitals but not the genitals)</li> </ul>	
<b>66 Pounds or More (30 kg or more)</b>	<b>CHG Cloth 1</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Neck, chest, arms</li> </ul> <b>CHG Cloth 2</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Right leg</li> </ul> <b>CHG Cloth 3</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Left leg</li> </ul> <b>CHG Cloth 4</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Back</li> </ul> <b>CHG Cloth 5</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Buttocks (including the crease)</li> </ul> <b>CHG Cloth 6</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Groin area (skin fold between legs and genitals but not the genitals)</li> </ul>	