

Preparing the Skin before Surgery with CHG Cloths

Preparing or “prepping” skin before surgery can reduce infections at the surgical site. To make the process easier, this facility has chosen disposable cloths moistened with a rinse-free, 2% Chlorhexidine gluconate (CHG) antiseptic solution. Use all three (3) packets provided. Follow these steps carefully:

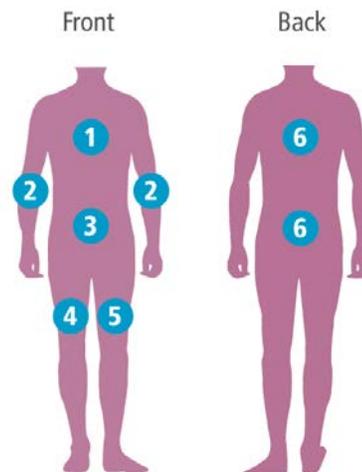
The night before surgery

- Take a shower. Do not shave any area of the body.
- Dry off with a clean towel. Do not apply any lotions, creams, powders, or deodorants.
- After the skin has dried, use the cloths provided in the order shown in the diagram.
- Use one cloth for each area of the body, wiping in a back-and-forth motion. Assistance may be required.
- Allow area to air dry for one minute. After wiping with the cloths provided, *do not rinse*. It is normal for the skin to have a temporary “tacky” feel for several minutes after the antiseptic solution is applied.
- For external use only. Keep out of eyes, ears, mouth, and genital area. If contact occurs, rinse with cold water right away. If severe irritation occurs, contact a doctor.
- When applied to sensitive skin, CHG may cause skin irritation such as a temporary itching sensation and/or redness. If itching or redness persists, rinse affected areas and discontinue use.
- Discard cloths in trash can. Do not flush down toilet.
- Dress in clean clothes or sleepwear after skin dries.

The morning of surgery

- Do not shower or bathe.
- You will be provided with more cloths at the hospital to repeat this process prior to surgery.

Cloth Usage Diagram



- 1 Wipe your **neck and chest**.
- 2 Wipe **both arms**, starting each with the shoulder and ending at the fingertips. *Be sure to thoroughly wipe the arm pit areas.*
- 3 Wipe your **right and left hip** followed by your **groin**. *Be sure to wipe folds in the abdominal and groin areas.*
- 4 Wipe the **right leg and foot**, starting at the thigh and ending at the toes. *Be sure to thoroughly wipe behind your knee.*
- 5 Wipe the **left leg and foot**, in a similar way as the right leg.
- 6 Wipe your **back** starting at the base of your neck and ending at your waist line. Lastly, wipe the **buttocks**. *Cover as much area as possible. Assistance may be required.*