Instructions for Preop Nurses

CHG Bathing Prior to C-Sections

Women's Services

Preop Staff give CHG bath prior to surgery when ordered by surgeon or included in a facility protocol.

Cloths are to be thrown in the trash, Do NOT flush!

CHG Bathing:

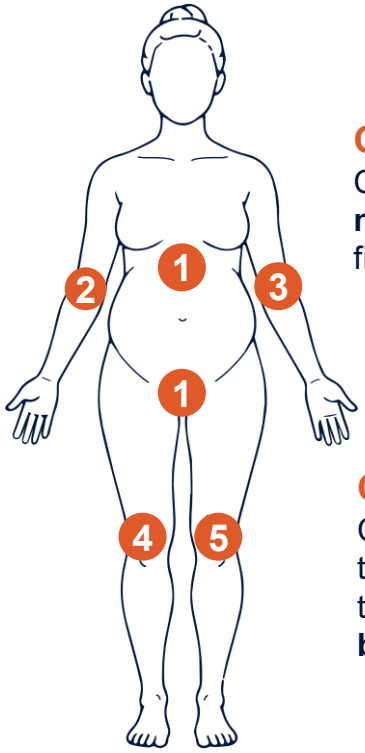
Always wash the **cleanest areas first** and move toward areas with more sweat or bacteria.

CHG wipes should NOT be used on the breasts or upper chest to prevent CHG from coming into contact with the baby's face or mouth during skin-to-skin or breastfeeding.

Cloth 1
Starting below the breasts, move down the **abdomen to the groin,** and finish with **perineum**.
Keep out of eyes, ears, & mouth

Cloth 2
Start with the **right hand**, clean **between fingers**, then move up the **arm** to the **shoulder**, ending with the **armpit**.

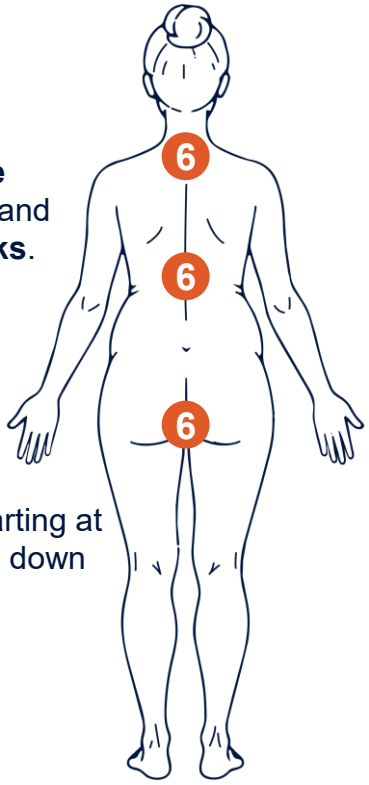
Cloth 3
Start with the left **hand**, clean **between fingers**, then move up the **arm** to the **shoulder**, ending with the **armpit.**



Cloth 4
Clean the **right leg**, starting at the **thigh** and moving down to the **foot**, including **between the toes**.

Cloth 5
Clean the **left leg**, starting at the **thigh** and moving down to the **foot**, including **between the toes.**

Cloth 6
Clean the **back of the neck**, then the **back**, and finish with the **buttocks**.



Use all **6 cloths** (use more if needed). Use firm massage to ensure deep cleaning.

If skin is visibly dirty, clean with soap and water or bath wipes first, then reapply CHG.

If there are any tubes, lines, or drains, clean them starting **where they come out of the body** and wipe **6 inches outward** along the tube (use new cloth if necessary).

See back for additional guidance

Instructions for Preop Nurses

CHG Bathing – Talking Points

What the patient needs to know:

- ✓ **CHG (Chlorhexidine Gluconate)** is a special antiseptic that kills germs and helps prevent infections.
- ✓ **CHG (Chlorhexidine Gluconate)** baths are in addition to the showers you completed prior to coming in today.
- ✓ **Gentle on skin:** CHG wipes contain aloe and are less drying than soap.
- ✓ **Do not rinse off:** CHG keeps working for 24 hours to protect against germs. CHG **kills more germs** than regular soap and water.
- ✓ **Perineal area:** CHG wipes are safe to use, but not for cleaning visible soiling; use bath wipes or soap first.

Keep out of eyes, ears, and mouth.





Cloths are to be thrown in the trash, Do NOT flush!



"I already had my bath/shower."

"That's right! This bath is in addition to your shower/bath you did before you arrived for surgery today. Think of this as a "protective bath" that reduces bacteria on your skin and decreases your risk for an infection."

"How long does the sticky feeling last?"

"The sticky feeling is a good sign that the CHG is adhering to the skin- it should feel less sticky within 5 minutes once it dries."

"Why can't I do this myself?"

"We want to help you with this CHG bath to ensure all areas of your skin are covered."

"Do I need to rinse this off later today?"

"The CHG applied to your skin with this bath should stay on your skin for the next 24 hours to continue to protect you against germs that may cause an infection"