Alternative CHG Bathing Process



IMPORTANT: DO NOT MIX OR DILUTE 4% CHG SOLUTION WITH WATER.

Process

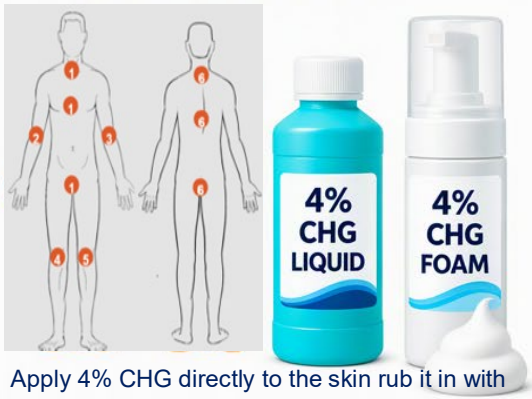
Local Supply Chain partners will continue to coordinate with facility-based teams on supply availability.

STEP 1. WET CLOTHS with WATER



Pour warm water into basin or disposable plastic bag. Wet disposable cloths and squeeze excess water out.

STEP 2. APPLY LIQUID OR FOAM WITH CLOTHS



Apply 4% CHG directly to the skin rub it in with a damp cloth. Use 6 cloths to clean the body, discarding each after use. Squeeze out excess liquid/foam before wiping tubing or dressings.

STEP 3. RINSE with WET CLOTHS (WATER ONLY)



Rinse skin using 6 clean cloths. The CHG stays on the skin and keeps working after use and rinsing. Discard each cloth after use and throw away the basin or plastic bag when finished.

HCA Healthcare®

REUSABLE LINEN MANAGEMENT

Why This Matters

Proper linen management supports patient safety, infection prevention, and operational efficiency. Our reusable linens undergo a specialized healthcare laundering process designed to reduce microbial contamination and deliver hygienically clean linen for patient care.

Responsible utilization helps maintain quality, conserve resources, and support uninterrupted care.

Conservation

Take only the linen you need, when you need it.

High Quality

Place clean linen with stains, holes, tears or defects in the green reject bag.

Daily Delivery

Linen is delivered between 4:00 AM – 12:00 PM. For urgent needs, please contact EVS.

Know Your Bags

BLUE *Soiled*

ALL SOILED LINEN GOES IN THE BLUE BAG

— regardless of soil level, including blood or body fluids.

RED *Biohazard*

Biohazard waste only. **NO linen.**

CLEAR *Trash*

Trash only. **NO linen.**

GREEN *Rejects*

Clean rejected linen with stains, holes, tears or defects.

HCA Healthcare℠

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CHG BATHING | LIMITED SUPPLY PRIORITIZATION & MITIGATION

Due to National CHG Shortage | For use until further notice from Corporate Supply Chain, Infection Prevention & Nursing

HOW TO USE THIS GUIDE

- Find the patient setting/group. Use Tier 1 until supply is unavailable. Proceed to following tier as necessary, with division & facility approval.
- When moving tiers, maintain highest tier possible for patient groups in order of this document, prioritizing top row to bottom.

PATIENT GROUP	TIER 1	TIER 2	TIER 3	TIER 4
ICU with & without central line **Non-ICU** with central line (midline excluded)	**CHG Cloth Bath** • Frequency: No change • Supplies: No change • Process: Follow IFU	**4% CHG Liquid or Foam Bath** • Frequency: No change • Supplies: Basin or Zip Bag + Water + Disposable Cloths (preferred) or Bath Cloths • Process: Follow Huddle Card	**Non-CHG Disposable Cloth Bath** • Frequency: No change • Supplies: Disposable bath cloths • Process: Follow IFU	**Non-CHG Soap & Water Bath** • Frequency: No change • Supplies: Basin or Zip Bag + Water + Bath Cloths • Process: Follow standard procedure
Specialty Unit ex. BMT/TCT/Oncology	**4% CHG Liquid or Foam Bath** • Frequency: No change • Supplies: Basin or Zip Bag + Water + Disposable Cloths (preferred) or Bath Cloths • Process: Follow Huddle Card	**Non-CHG Disposable Cloth Bath** • Frequency: No change • Supplies: Disposable bath cloths • Process: Follow IFU	**Non-CHG Soap & Water Bath** • Frequency: No change • Supplies: Basin or Zip Bag + Water + Bath Cloths • Process: Follow standard procedure	
NICU MRSA Decolonization **Pre-Op Ortho & Cardiac** Where decolonization is indicated	**Maintain current practice** **For pre-op ortho and cardiac decolonization**, pursue option for patients to purchase CHG independently	**Non-CHG Soap & Water Bath** • Frequency: No change • Supplies: Basin or Zip Bag + Water + Bath Cloths • Process: Follow standard procedure		
Non-ICU without central line or midline and with or without daily decolonization order	**Non-CHG Disposable Cloth Bath** • Frequency: No change • Supplies: Disposable bath cloths • Process: Follow IFU	**Non-CHG Soap & Water Bath** • Frequency: No change • Supplies: Basin or Zip Bag + Water + Bath Cloths • Process: Follow standard procedure		
Pre-Operative Patient* Outpatient: takes place in pre-op Inpatient: takes place in pre-op or on the floor per usual process	**Non-CHG Soap & Water Bath** • Frequency: No change • Supplies: Basin or Zip Bag + Water + Bath Cloths • Process: Follow standard procedure			

IMPORTANT CONSIDERATIONS

- Maintain Strict Hand Hygiene
- While this document is in use, midlines are excluded from list of central lines for purpose of determining CHG bathing.
- 4% CHG Liquid & Foam can be used for 2 or more baths depending on patient size; multi-use bottles are single-patient use only.
- 4% CHG Liquid & Foam should not be diluted. Follow product IFU and nursing huddle card for instructions.
- Basins and/or resealable bags used for baths are single-use.
- *Facilities that provide pre-op patients CHG for home use, discontinue handout and provide instructions for patient to self-purchase

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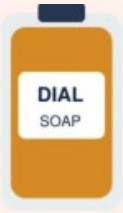
Preoperative Bathing Instructions

Night before and morning of your procedure

Bathing before surgery helps reduce germs on your skin. Purchase your soap at a local pharmacy or retail store before your procedure. No prescription is needed. Follow any different instructions from your surgeon or preoperative care team.

OPTION 1 | PREFERRED	OPTION 2 | ALTERNATIVE
	
HIBICLENS 4% CHG Purchase Hibiclens 4% CHG (or a 4% CHG cleanser approved by your surgical team).	**DIAL ANTIBACTERIAL SOAP** Use if Hibiclens is unavailable or you have a chlorhexidine allergy, as directed by your care team.

When to shower

1. The night before surgery **2. The morning of surgery**

Use the same selected product for both showers unless your surgical team instructs otherwise.

If using Hibiclens 4% CHG

1. Wash your hair with regular shampoo first and rinse well. Wash your face separately with regular soap or water.
2. Wet your body, then step away from the water stream. Apply Hibiclens to your skin from the neck down, using your hands or a clean, wet washcloth. Wash gently, including around the surgical area.
3. Keep Hibiclens away from your eyes, ears, mouth, and genital area. Do not use on the face or head. Rinse your body thoroughly with warm water.
4. Do not wash again with regular soap after Hibiclens. Pat dry with a clean towel.

If using Dial antibacterial soap

1. Shower with warm water. Wash your hair with regular shampoo first and rinse well.
2. Wash your face with your regular soap and rinse well.
3. Step away from the water stream so the soap does not rinse off too quickly. Wash your body thoroughly with Dial soap, paying particular attention to the area around your planned surgery. Avoid getting soap in your eyes. Rinse thoroughly and pat dry with a clean towel.

After each shower

Put on clean clothing or pajamas. Use freshly laundered bed linens the night before surgery. After the morning shower, do not apply lotions, powders, perfume, or deodorant unless your surgical team tells you otherwise. Do not shave the surgical area.

Important safety reminders

Do not use Hibiclens if you have a known chlorhexidine allergy. Stop use and contact your care team if irritation or an allergic reaction occurs; seek emergency care for trouble breathing or severe swelling. If neither product is available, contact your surgical team. Do not substitute products without guidance.

Questions? Contact your surgeon's office or preoperative care team before surgery.