

Information for staff: Chlorhexidine Wash Cloth

Chlorhexidine Wash Cloths provide a simple, rinse free, antiseptic body cleansing solution.

2% Chlorhexidine digluconate rapidly kills harmful bacteria that can be found on patient's skin and also provides long lasting residual protection, ensuring an extra bacterial layer for our patients.

Application: these wipes are specifically designed for pre-operative body washes and prior to specified clinical procedures for designated patients at high risk of infection. They are a total body wipe with the exception of the patients head ie they are applied from the below the jaw line. Each pack contains 4 wipes and can be used heated or unheated.

Directions for Use:

The patient is required to have 2 Chlorhexidine washes prior to surgery.

Wash cloths can be used cool, at room temperature or heated in your microwave (800watt). If using a microwave, heat one unopened packet at a time for 20-30 seconds. If packet feels too hot to hold comfortably, allow to cool to a more comfortable temperature prior to using wipes.

Evening prior to surgery:

- Shower normally then follow with wash cloth, paying attention to folds and crevices. Leave to dry on the skin. It is important that the patient knows not to rinse it off. The patient may need assistance with this.

Day of surgery:

- The patient is required to shower again with soap prior to admission at home. (please check)
- The patient applies a packet of Chlorhexidine wash clothes with **supervision and assistance of a nurse**, this should occur following clipping if required.
- **See over page for instructions**

To obtain Chlorhexidine Wash Cloths through procurement:

HIMF	Item Description	Supplier	UOP	Unit Price	Supplier Item Code
832113	WIPE, SKIN CLEANSING, 33x23cm, 2% CHLORHEXIDINE, UNSCENTED, RESEALABLE (REYNARD)(4)	Clifford Hallam Healthcare Pty Ltd	PACK OF 4	\$2.30	2071339

Staff must observe / assist the patient to attend the day of procedure wash.

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1st wipe	Starting from below your jawline wipe around your neck, arms and back.
2nd wipe	Wipe your chest area, sides and then armpits
3rd wipe	Wipe both legs, front and back starting from top and working to toes
4th wipe	Wipe your groin and buttocks area

IMPORTANT

Check temperature of cloths before using.
Wait until they are body temperature

