**Patients With Devices: Prevent Infections During Your Hospital Stay PATIENT**

**Section 10-7**

**BATHE Daily With Chlorhexidine (CHG) Cloths**

During your stay, bathing will occur every day with a special antiseptic (CHG) that removes germs and prevents infection better than soap and water.

Each packet has six cloths to be used on all skin areas as shown below:

# Diagram of human figure. 1- head and chest 2- arms 3- groin 4- left leg 5- right leg 6- back

* **Avoid eyes and ear canals.**

Take a CHG Bed Bath

Bathing With CHG Cloths

* Use CHG every day. Starting on admission day works best to remove germs before insertion of urinary catheters or intravenous and other lines, and before procedures/ surgery.
* These no-rinse cloths are your protective bath. The CHG continues to get rid of germs for 24 hours.
* Use all six cloths. More, if needed.
* Firmly massage on all skin areas to ensure deep cleaning of skin.
* Clean over non-gauze dressings.
* Your nurse will clean parts of lines, tubes, and drains nearest the body.



Protect Yourself Every Day

Important Points and Reminders

* CHG is proven to work better than soap and water to get rid of germs.
* Skin may feel sticky for just a few minutes due to lotion or aloe vera in the cloths. This will go away once skin completely dries.
* Do not rinse. Once massaged onto skin, CHG works to kill germs for 24 hours.
* Be thorough. Ask for help for hard-to-reach areas, backside, around devices.
* CHG is safe on rashes and wounds that are not very large or deep.
* Clean lines, drains, and tubes 6 inches closest to the body. Ask for help, if needed.

Clean All Skin Areas, With Attention to:

* Neck
* All skin folds
* Skin around all devices (tubes/drains)
* Wounds and open skin
* Armpits, groin, between fingers/toes