

Decolonization of Non-ICU Patients With Devices

Section 11-3 – Just in Time Training:

Chlorhexidine Cloth Bathing or Showering Plus Nasal Iodophor

What Is Targeted Decolonization?

Our hospital is decolonizing adult patients with medical devices using chlorhexidine gluconate (CHG) for all bathing care needs. In addition, patients with medical devices who are methicillin-resistant *Staphylococcus aureus* (MRSA) carriers by history, screening test, or clinical culture will receive nasal decolonization twice daily for 5 days.

1. How To Bathe or Shower With CHG

- Use 2% no-rinse CHG cloths for baths or 4% liquid rinse-off CHG for showers on admission, and for all subsequent routine bathing or showering needs.
- Pair with a “buddy” who can teach you. Review attached one-page staff instructional handouts.
- To save time, give bath or shower instructional handout to patient prior to bath or shower.
- Cloth Bath: Obtain CHG bathing pack from warmer (6 cloths total).
- Showering: Provide patient with 4 oz 4% CHG bottle, and mesh sponge.
- During bath or shower, be sure to perform or train the patient on the following:
 1. Apply CHG to skin with firm massage.
 2. Avoid getting CHG into eyes or ear canals.
 3. Do not use other soaps. They can inactivate CHG.
 4. For incontinent patients, clean soilage with wipes or rinse off in shower prior to using CHG to clean. After CHG is used, apply CHG-compatible barrier product as needed.
- When using 2% CHG bathing cloths
 5. Let air dry. Do not wipe off.
 6. Do not flush cloths. Put them in the trash.

2. Cleaning Devices, Wounds, and Rashes During CHG Bath or Shower

- Devices need the most protection. During a bed bath or after unwrapping devices after a shower, apply 2% CHG cloth to the 6 inches of all devices (e.g. lines, tubes, drains) closest to the body, and over all non-gauze dressings.
- Rashes and wounds also need protection. During a bed bath or after unwrapping wounds after a shower, use 2% CHG cloth on rashes and wounds that are not packed or deep. Do not rinse off.

3. 10% Nasal Iodophor (Iodine) Treatment (for known MRSA carriers)

- Use 10% nasal iodophor (one swab per nostril) twice daily for 5 days or until discharge.

Signature of Staff Completing Training

Print Last Name

Print First Name

____/____/____
Date

Please return signature page to the unit charge nurse. Review attached CHG handouts.

