

# Decolonization of Non-ICU Patients With Devices

## Section 11-2 – Just-in-Time Training:

### Chlorhexidine Basin Bathing or Showering Plus Mupirocin

#### 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 tests, 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.
- **Bed bath:** pour 4 oz 4% CHG bottle into basin. Fill bottle with 4 oz water. Add to basin to make 2% CHG liquid. Use six strong disposable non-cotton cloths to apply no-rinse CHG to all skin areas.
- **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 as basin bath
  1. Let air dry. Do **not** wipe off.
  2. 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. Mupirocin Nasal Treatment (for known MRSA carriers)

- Use 2% nasal mupirocin twice daily for 5 days or until discharge, whichever comes first.

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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.**

