

# Hibiclens Bathing Instructions

## for the Night Before a Surgery or Procedure

### To Learn More

- Surgery Center  
206-987-2045
- Outpatient Procedure  
Center 206-987-5533
- Ask your child's  
healthcare provider
- [www.seattlechildrens.com](http://www.seattlechildrens.com)

Seattle Children's Hospital is working hard to prevent infections. During your child's surgery, we will give antibiotics (medicine used to treat infections) as needed, clean the skin and closely watch things like your child's body temperature and blood sugar. All of these can prevent infection.

We also need to be sure your child's skin is as free of germs as possible before their surgery or procedure. Thoroughly washing the skin can greatly reduce the number of germs and help us prevent infection. Please follow the instructions below to clean your child's skin the night before their surgery or procedure.

Use the special soap provided called Hibiclens. Hibiclens is a brand name for soap called chlorhexidine gluconate (CHG). **This product should not be used if your child is allergic to CHG.**

Help your child shower or bathe with Hibiclens the **night before** their surgery or procedure.

### Free Interpreter Services

- In the hospital, ask your child's nurse.
- From outside the hospital, call the toll-free Family Interpreting Line 1-866-583-1527. Tell the interpreter the name or extension you need.
- For Deaf and hard of hearing callers  
206-987-2280 (TTY)

### Bathing or showering steps

1. In the shower or tub, wash body with regular soap and water first. Wash the hair as usual with your normal shampoo.
2. Rinse the hair and body thoroughly to remove soap and shampoo residue.
3. Apply the Hibiclens soap to your child's entire body **only from the neck down**. Do **not** use Hibiclens near the eyes or ears to avoid permanent injury to those areas.
4. Turn water off to prevent rinsing off soap too soon. Wash the body gently for five minutes. Do **not** scrub the skin too hard. Wash thoroughly with the Hibiclens, paying special attention to the area where the surgery or procedure will be done. Do **not** wash with regular soap after the Hibiclens is used.
5. Turn the water back on and rinse the body thoroughly.
6. Pat your child dry with a clean, soft towel.

If you misplace your packet, Hibiclens or CHG soap can be purchased at most large pharmacies. The soap may come in a liquid form or in a scrub brush applicator. Either form is fine.

Seattle Children's offers interpreter services for Deaf, hard of hearing or non-English speaking patients, family members and legal representatives free of charge. Seattle Children's will make this information available in alternate formats upon request. Call the Family Resource Center at 206-987-2201.

This handout has been reviewed by clinical staff at Seattle Children's. However, your child's needs are unique. Before you act or rely upon this information, please talk with your child's healthcare provider.

© 2009 Seattle Children's, Seattle, Washington. All rights reserved.

9/09  
PE611