Chlorhexididene Gluconate Baths (CHG Baths) for Patients with Central Lines

New Process for Patients with Central Lines

Effective: December 2, 2014
Objectives

• The nurse will be able to:
  ▪ Identify the impact of CHG bathing
  ▪ Identify the steps taken in giving a patient a CHG bath
  ▪ Use the decision tree to identify those patients that should not receive CHG baths
  ▪ Discuss documentation necessary for CHG baths
Why Utilize CHG Baths?

- Studies show daily baths with CHG cloths reduce central line infections.
  - Daily patient bathing reduces risk of blood stream infections (BSIs) including bacteremia and fungemia
  - Daily patient bathing reduces risk of acquisition of MDROs (multi-drug resistant organisms)
Why Utilize CHG Baths?

- There are no serious skin reactions reported with the use of CHG bathing.
- This intervention is relatively straightforward to implement and sustain. It does not require a substantial change from routine patient-bathing practices.
- There are cost savings associated with avoidance of health care acquired infections.
- The potential to improve patient satisfaction. Patients appreciate knowing we are utilizing interventions to keep them safe from infections.
Why Use the 2% CHG Cloths?

- The persistence of CHG on the skin allows prolonged and cumulative antibacterial effect.
  - A 2% CHG impregnated alcohol-free no-rinse cloth used for pre-surgical skin preparation is associated with excellent rapid reductions of bacterial counts.

- The 2% no-rinse cloth appears to be more effective at reducing skin colonization than a 4% CHG solution that must be rinsed off.

Why Use the 2% CHG Cloths?

- The no-rinse nature of the CHG cloth may result in greater CHG residual on the skin.

- The exfoliative nature of the CHG cloth may improve its performance.

- A 2% CHG no-rinse cloth protocol helps to ensure patient compliance as opposed to undocumented patient showering with chlorhexidine at home.

CHG Bathing Process

- All inpatients with Central Lines will begin daily CHG baths as soon as the Central Line is inserted or on admission if Central Line is already present.

- If patient desires and is able per MD order:
  - Following the shower, the nurse/nurse tech will bathe patient with CHG impregnated cloths.
  - The nurse/nurse tech will give ALL CHG baths to ensure proper prep of patient.
  - It is recommended that the patient does not shower once the CHG baths have begun.
  - The cumulative effect of CHG baths on the skin provides the best benefit.
All patients with Central Lines will:
- Begin daily CHG baths as soon as the Central Line is inserted.
- Receive CHG baths daily until discharged.

Contraindications for CHG Baths
- CHG Allergy
- Isolated areas of breakdown
- Do NOT use CHG wipes for incontinence care

Do Not Apply
- Generalized sloughing of skin
- Generalized skin rash
- Patient refuses

Obtain bath cloths from warmer.

DAILY
Use 6 cloths to bathe per bathing instructions

Apply CHG compatible lotion (if needed)

* Reinforce purpose of CHG wipes to reduce infection.

Document
- Use Daily Care Flowsheet when CHG bath was used
- If CHG not given, inform nurse and document the reason in Nurses Notes

Skin Intact?

Skin Assessment

• If patient is extremely soiled, give a bath with soap and water, Remedy skin cleanser, or Aloe-touch wipes.
• Do not use a basin and always use a clean cloth for each skin area

Yes

No
CHG Bathing

- If a patient can not have a CHG bath because of skin breakdown, allergy, etc., then an alternative bathing method must be used.

- **Never** use a basin to give a patient a bath

- **Never** use the sink to give a patient a bath

- If a patient refuses the CHG bath, this must be documented under daily hygiene in the comment section.
CHG Bath Wipes

- CHG Bath Wipes come prepackaged in a single packet that contains three individual packets.

- Each individual packet contains 2 CHG impregnated wipes.

- CHG wipes will be warmed using the CHG warming cabinet (next slide).
New CHG Warming Cabinet

- Warm CHG bath pack at least 1 hour prior to use
  - Place CHG pack in warmer once you are aware you need to bathe a patient.
  - Do not pre-stock cabinet due to short window of CHG viability once warmed.
  - Packets are only good for 72 hours once warmed.
New CHG Warming Cabinet

**Light Indicators**

**Yellow Light**
- Cloth is warming, not yet ready.

**Solid Green Light**
- Cloth is ready to use.

**Blinking Green Light**
- Cloth is aging out, use this one first.

**Red light**
- Cloth is expired, do not use, dispose of it.

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**NOT READY**

**READY**
- TAKE FIRST

**DISPOSE**

**NO MORE GUESSING WHICH PACKAGES ARE WARM AND READY FOR USE.**

Each package is warmed to a consistent, reliable temperature. Lighted indicators automatically show which packages are warm and ready, and which ones are not.
CHG Bath Instructions

- Use one wipe each (6 total)
  1. To clean neck, chest, abdomen & groin
  2. To clean back and buttocks
  3. To clean left arm
  4. To clean right arm
  5. To clean left leg
  6. To clean right leg

- Do not wash face or perineal area with CHG wipes.
- Do not use CHG on mucous membranes or severely abraded skin.
For Patients with Central Lines

★ Important to Remember

- For patients with Central Lines, once an area has been cleansed with CHG cloth, DO NOT return to the same area.

- For heavily soiled skin, face and perineal area:
  - Use soap & water, Aloetouch cleansing cloths, or Remedy foaming body cleanser or
  - Patient may shower PRIOR to beginning CHG Baths.

- If lotion is desired, use only Kindest Kare Skin Cream (a CHG compatible lotion).

- Document CHG Bath
REMEMBER

Do Not Flush The CHG Wipes in the Toilet

Dispose of each washcloth in the trash.

Do NOT flush washcloths in the toilet.
REMEMBER:
All CHG baths should be documented in EPIC.

Select CHG Bath