Standardization of Patient Bathing

The Basinless Way

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Disclosure
Agenda

What is CHG bathing
Current bathing practice
New products
Bathing Process
Education for Staff and Patients
Documentation
Questions
Bath basins are a reservoir for bacteria and may be a source of transmission of hospital-acquired infections. We need to increase awareness particularly for high-risk patients. Daily bathing of the skin with chlorhexidine-impregnated bathing cloths will result in reduced rates of healthcare-associated infections in patients and increased CHG treatment compliance rate.
Current bathing practice
Reasons to ditch the basin!
Reasons to ditch the basin!

- Multiple studies have shown that basins are contaminated with enterococcus gram-negative organisms, *Staphylococcus aureus*, *vancomycin-resistant enterococci*, *methicillin-resistant* *S. aureus*, *Pseudomonas aeruginosa*, *Candida albicans* and *E. coli*.

- Providing daily CHG baths can prevent CAUTIs and CLABSIs.

- Patients complain that wash cloths are rough on their skin and baths are cold.

- Basins are used as storage for wound care AND other medical supplies, used as emesis basin and bathing basin.

- Use of bottle CHG does not provide even distribution of product.

- Using CHG cloths will decrease various products for bathing and decrease cost of linen laundry.

- Care Providers report it takes 20-30 minutes to finish one patient bath (gathering supplies, waiting for water to warm, the bath process and application of CHG treatment).

- It takes between 12 seconds to 57 seconds for water to warm - we waste almost 19 cups of water per patient bath.
New products

Primary daily bathing

Incontinence care

Patients with Contraindications (allergy to CHG & aloe, deep wounds)
The green indicator light will appear when packages have reached 125 degrees and are considered ready for patient use. After 48 hours, the green light will begin to flash, indicating which packages should be used first.

The yellow indicator light will appear when the packages are placed in the warmer, and will remain until the warmer slot reaches 125 degrees (temperature for patient comfort); packages need 2 hours to warm.

The red indicator light will appear at 84 hours; the red light indicates that CHG packages should be disposed and a new package put in its place.
CHG BATHING PROCESS

• There are six total cloths in each bundle, three banded packages of two cloths per package.
• If using a warm CHG cloth, check the temperature of the CHG cloth prior to use. Gloves diminish sense of heat. **Cloths may be used without being warmed.
• Open bundle by using notch on back of package.
• Bathe with CHG once daily for entire hospital stay.
• Use a clean CHG cloth for each area of the body to reduce the chance of spreading germs from one area to another.
• Do not use above jawline.
• Do not rinse off.
Education for Staff and Patients

ONLY USE CHG CLOTHS BELOW THE JAWLINE

1. Neck, shoulders, and chest.
2. Both arms and hands.
3. Abdomen then groin and perineum.
4. Right leg and foot.
5. Left leg and foot.
6. Back of neck, back, and then buttocks.

Skin may feel sticky for a few minutes. Do NOT wipe off. Allow to air dry.
Face, Scalp and Hair

- Wash face and head first before starting with CHG.
- Use shampoo cap or directly use shampoo sparingly, avoid contact with rest of the body, as it may deactivate CHG.
- Cleanse face with regular washcloth.
- Do **NOT** use 2% CHG cloths near eyes or ears.
- Do not use above jawline.
Peri-care

Perineum and Vaginal Cleansing

• Critical area for cleaning
• CHG is safe to use on the perineum and external mucosa.
• Use CHG cloths to remove bacteria and clean area.
• Clean down 6 inches of Foley catheter with CHG cloth
Incontinence Care

For patients with intact skin

- Remove urine/stool with usual chux/cloths and water.
- Do **NOT** use soap.
- Cleanse with CHG and allow to air dry (about a minute).
- Apply CHG-compatible barrier product over affected area, as needed. (Comfort Shield Barrier cream cloth)
- If additional barrier protection is needed during day, it is okay to use another CHG-compatible barrier product.
- If additional bathing is required throughout the day, clean with CHG cloths, then reapply CHG-compatible barrier product, as needed.
Incontinence Care

For patients with non-intact skin

- Do not reapply CHG after daily bath
- Remove urine/stool and clean with baby wipes
- Apply barrier cream with Comfort Shield barrier cream cloth
- For severe breakdown – apply “crust” of appropriate Criticaid product

Pediatrics

- Do not reapply CHG after daily bath
- Remove urine/stool and clean with baby wipes/Baza spray
- Apply barrier cream with Comfort Shield barrier cream cloth
- For severe breakdown – apply “crust” of appropriate Criticaid product
Special Considerations

Pediatrics

For patients weighing 10 - 30 kg use 4 cloths for bathing all body areas below the jaw
Cloth 1. Neck, shoulders, chest, both arms and hands
Cloth 2. Back a buttocks
Cloth 3. Both legs
Cloth 4. Perineum

For patients weighing less than 10 kg use two cloths for bathing all body areas below the jaw
Cloth 1. Neck, shoulders, chest, both arms, hands.
Cloth 2. Both legs, buttocks and perineum.

Obese Patients

• If one set of six cloths is not sufficient, use more.
• Make sure to clean between all skin folds.
Central Line Care

- Bathe with CHG up to border of dressing.
- Clean skin folds well (neck, groin).
Other Devices

• Drains, G tubes, rectal tubes, chest tubes, EKG leads, and Foley catheters may be cleaned with CHG cloth.

• If dressing is to be changed, clean entire area well with CHG and allow to dry before replacing dressing.

• If dressing is in place, clean skin up to border of dressing.

• CHG will not harm EKG leads.

• Be careful to avoid deep surgical wounds.
Wound Care

• CHG can be applied to any superficial wound, including stage 1 and stage 2 pressure injuries, friable skin/rash, and superficial burns. We recommend not using CHG on large or deep open wounds.

• CHG can and should be applied over a closed surgical incision to eradicate bacteria and hopefully prevent infection.
Reminders

**DO**

- Use chlorhexidine (CHG) baths in place of daily bathing with soap and water.
- Massage firmly into skin to bind skin proteins and prevent bacteria for 24 hours.
- Give CHG baths every day for entire hospital stay.
- Only use CHG-compatible lotions.
- Use over superficial wounds, including stages 1 and 2 pressure ulcers
- Ambulatory patients may shower using gentle rain and use CHG treatment afterwards

**DON’T**

- Do NOT use above jawline.
- Do NOT rinse or wipe off CHG. Let air dry.
- Do NOT flush CHG cloths (discard in trash, not toilet or commode).
- Do NOT continue protocol after discharge.
Do not flush! Throw in the trash!
**Education for Staff and Patients**

### Bath

**DO**
- Use chlorhexidine (CHG) baths in place of daily bathing with soap and water.
- Massage firmly into skin to kill skin-penetrating and prevent bacteria for 30 hours.
- Disc CHG baths every day for entire hospital stay.
- Only use CHG-compatible sponges.
- Use superficial wounds, including staged and Z-scapular injuries.
- Ambulatory patients can shower using gentle wash and use CHG treatment afterwards.

**DON'T**
- Do not use on patients with CHG, aloso allergy or other contraindications.
- Do not use above joints.
- Do not re-use or wring off CHG sponges.
- Do not flush CHG sponges (discard in trash, not toilet or household).
- Do not continue protocol after discharge.

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**New Products**

- **Primary daily bathing**
  - Patients with contraindications: allergy to CHG, aloe, deep wounds, and infants less than 2 months.

- **Incontinence care**
  - **Warmer**

The green indicator light will appear when packages have reached 125 degrees and packages are ready for patient use. After 45 hours, the green light will begin to flash, indicating which packages should be used first.

The yellow indicator light will appear when the packages are placed in the warmer, and will remain on until the warmer is placed in the warmer box (temperature for patient comfort). Packages need 2 hours to warm.

The red indicator light will appear at 64 hours, indicating that the CHG packages should be disposed of and a new package put in its place.
Education for Staff and Patients

**U Bath**

**Education for Staff**

For children less than 22 pounds (10kg):
- DO
  - Use chlorhexidine (CHG) baths in place of daily bathing with soap and water.
  - Massage firmly into skin to break down proteins and prevent infections for 24 hours.
  - Give CHG baths every day for entire hospital stay.
  - Only use CHG-compatible braces.
  - Treat superficial wounds, including stage 1 and 2 decubitus ulcers.
- DO NOT
  - Do NOT use on patients with CHG, also allergic to other contaminants.
  - Do NOT use on babies.
  - Do NOT immerse infants in CHG for 12 hours.
  - Do NOT cover CHG with a bandage in hand, not sterile or commercially.
  - Do NOT continue product after discharge.

For children between 22 and 66 pounds (10kg):

For children more than 66 pounds (30kg):

**New Products**

- Primary daily bathing
- Patients with contraindications: allergy to CHG, aloe, deep wounds, and infants less than 2 months

**Incontinence care**

**Warmer**

- The green indicator light will appear when packages have reached 125 degrees and are considered ready for patient use. After 48 hours, the green light will begin to flash, indicating which packages should be used first.
- The yellow indicator light will appear when the packages are placed in the warmer, and will remain until the warmer slot reaches 125 degrees (temperature for patient comfort). Packages need 2 hours to warm.
- The red indicator light will appear after 64 hours; the red light indicates that CHG packages should be disposed of and a new package put in place.
Daily Chlorhexidine Bathing Patient Information

What is Chlorhexidine (CHG)?

Chlorhexidine belongs to a group of medicines called antiseptic antibacterial agents. This hospital will provide you with a daily no-rinse bath using special skin cleanser that removes potentially harmful bacteria on the skin and reduces the risk of infection during the high-risk period of hospitalization. The ultimate goal of this type of bathing is to prevent infections that you may be at risk for during your hospital stay.

Why should CHG bath be administered daily?

CHG has been shown to keep bacteria off the skin for up to 24 hours. You will be bathed daily to protect you from infections during your hospital stay.

Is it safe to use every day?

Yes. Let your nurse know if you have an allergy to CHG or aloe. Bathing with an alternative cleanser will be provided to patients with CHG or aloe allergies and patients suffering from burn and deep extensive wounds.

Am I really clean without using soap and water to bathe?

CHG actually works better than standard soap and water for removing bacteria from the skin. It continues to work for up to 24 hours.

How do I use it?

Wash your head and face first before using CHG. Use a clean CHG cloth for each area of the body to reduce the chance of spreading germs from one area to another. Your skin may feel sticky for 1 to 2 minutes. This is because there is lotion in the cloths. This feeling will go away once your skin dries.

Do not flush the cloths. Ask your provider before using any other skin products such as lotions.

Who can provide me with more information?

Please talk to your nurse if you have a question or want additional information.
Policy: Chlorhexidine Gluconate (CHG) Bath Treatment, Nur-HS 137

PURPOSE
The purpose of this policy is to provide instructions for the use of Chlorhexidine Gluconate (CHG) bath treatment for daily primary bathing.

SCOPE
This policy applies to the staff at Ronald Reagan UCLA Medical Center (RRUCLAMC) and Santa Monica UCLA Medical Center (SMUCLAMC) and Orthopaedic Hospital responsible for daily bathing of the following patient populations:
- All adult and pediatric patients over the age of two months.
- CHG bath treatments are not routinely used in the following patient populations:
  - Neonatal intensive care
  - Newborn nursery
  - Perinatal, except for patients:
    - Pre-op for cesarian section
    - With indwelling central venous catheter

GENERAL INFORMATION

Indication
Patients in the intensive care and acute care settings are more prone to develop healthcare-associated infections due to their compromised state of health. Immuno-compromised patients, patients with invasive devices, or patients undergoing invasive procedures are ideal candidates for CHG bath treatment as part of an infection risk reduction strategy of bundled interventions.

CHG is a safe, broad-spectrum antiseptic against Gram positive bacteria, Gram negative bacteria, yeasts and enveloped viruses. Multiple studies on patients in the intensive care and acute care settings show a reduction in healthcare-associated infections when CHG daily bath treatments occur.

R1-8 N1

Availability
CHG is available as 2% chlorhexidine gluconate cloth. It may be applied directly without dilution.

POLICY

CHG bath treatments are initiated on all applicable patients within 24 hours of admission.

CHG bath treatment is performed at least once within a 24-hour period on each patient unless contraindicated.

Contraindications for use include the following:
- Patients < 2 months of age
- Patients with extensive and diffuse skin rashes, open extensive weeping, or skin eruptions:
  - Patients with known allergies to CHG or hypersensitivity any other ingredients in the product, including known aloe allergy.
  - Patients with burns greater than one dermatome or that include a high percentage of disrupted body surface area.
  - Patients undergoing lumbar punctures or contact with the meninges.
  - CHG is toxic to nerve tissues with direct contact.

PROCEDURE
The Registered Nurse is responsible for assessing the patient's skin for any contraindications for a CHG bath treatment.

The Registered Nurse is responsible for educating the patient on the use of CHG bath treatments as a standard unit treatment and providing patient education information sheet as needed.

Assistive personnel such as Care Partners or Licensed Vocational Nurses can give CHG bath treatments with direction from the patient's primary Registered Nurse.

CHG is available in a cloth pack containing two cloths. CHG acts as the soap and cleansing product for removing bacteria and binding to the skin for persistent antibacterial activity lasting 24 hours. CHG may be used for all bathing purposes including incontinence care.

Adult patients, use the six CHG cloths for bathing all body areas below the jawline.

Cloths should be used to bathe the skin with firm massage. Use a clean CHG cloth for each area of the body—see appendix 1.

Obese patients may require more cloths to thoroughly clean body.

Pediatric patients, the number of CHG clothes used is weight based-
- see appendix 2.
  - > 30 kg: use 6 cloths
  - 10-30 kg: use 4 cloths
  - <10 kg: use 2 cloths

To ensure thorough cleaning, pay special attention to commonly soiled areas such as neck, skin folds and perineal areas.

CHG is safe to use on perineal areas, including external mucosa.

CHG is safe for superficial wounds, including stage 1 and stage 2 decubitus ulcers.

Pay special attention to cleaning areas surrounding line and other devices to ensure removal of bacteria from skin, CHG is safe on devices and can be used over semi-occlusive dressings.

Skin may feel sticky for a few minutes after application of CHG. This will resolve after product has dried.

Allow CHG to dry naturally. Do not rinse with water or wipe off.

CHG cloths contain moisturizers. If additional moisturizer or lotion is needed, use only products that are known to be CHG compatible.

UCLA products do not contain anionic emulsifying agents and are compatible with Chlorhexidine Gluconate. Patients and their family members should consult with the nurse before using any creams or lotions from home.

Dispose of CHG cloths in the trash. DO NOT FLUSH.

Document completion of CHG bath treatment in EHR: Daily cares/safety> Hygiene>CHG
# Product Conversions

## Sage Basinless Bath Conversion Chart

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<th>Current EMPAC</th>
<th>Current Cat #</th>
<th>Current Description</th>
<th>Current Vendor</th>
<th>New EMPAC</th>
<th>New Cat #</th>
<th>New Description</th>
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<td>4352</td>
<td>CHG Cleansing Pack</td>
<td>Medline</td>
<td>501196</td>
<td>5707</td>
<td>2% CHG Cloth Pkg</td>
<td>Sage replaces 100% of Medline item; 600646 will be inactivated</td>
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<td>7055</td>
<td>Essential Bath No Rinse</td>
<td>Coloplast</td>
<td>575291</td>
<td>7803</td>
<td>Essential Bath</td>
<td>Sage replaces 100% of Coloplast item; 532468 will be inactivated</td>
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<td>Gentile Rain Cleanse</td>
<td>Coloplast</td>
<td>575291</td>
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<td>Essential Bath</td>
<td>Sage replaces 75% of Coloplast item; 301738 still active</td>
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<td>7712</td>
<td>Baza Cleanse</td>
<td>Coloplast</td>
<td>575290</td>
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<td>Comfort Shield Barrier Cloth</td>
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<tr>
<td>501530</td>
<td>7571</td>
<td>Moisture Barrier Dintment</td>
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<td>7508</td>
<td>Comfort Shield Barrier Cloth</td>
<td>Sage replaces 50% of Coloplast item; 501530 still active</td>
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*UCLA Health*
## Financial

### Purchasing Cost Analysis

**Vendor:** Sage  
**Vendor #:**

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<th>Cat#</th>
<th>UOM</th>
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<th>Current Pricing</th>
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<th>Volume</th>
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**Total Current Cost:** $460,673

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**Total Proposed Cost:** $405,608

**Total Cost Savings/(increase):** $55,066

Notes:
Documentation
Resources


Questions?
This is my thank you dance!