

Hibiclens Bathing and Antibiotic Ointment Instructions

Follow these instructions to help prevent surgical site infections.

What are we doing to prevent surgical site infections?

We take many precautions to prevent infections, including:

- Having all operating room staff clean their hands and arms up to their elbows right before surgery.
 - Giving your child antibiotics, for some procedures, before the surgery.
 - Cleaning your child's skin at the surgery site with special soap that kills germs.
 - Many patients get a swab of an antiseptic (povidone iodine) in their nose right before surgery to kill germs.
-

How can I help prevent surgical site infections?

Tell your surgical team if your child has any open sores, any signs of current infections, ingrown toenails, or any red or swollen areas on their body.

Your child's skin needs to be as free of germs (bacteria) as possible before their surgery or procedure. Washing the skin with a special soap called Hibiclens (4% chlorhexidine gluconate solution) can greatly reduce the number of germs on the skin and can help prevent infection. We will give you this soap.

Patients with a history of MRSA or povidone iodine allergy may also need to use an antibiotic ointment called mupirocin 2% in the nostrils. This ointment is by prescription, and you will need to get this filled by a pharmacy. Hibiclens and mupirocin are medicines. Use them only as instructed by your healthcare provider.

To Learn More

- Surgery Center 206-987-2045
- Outpatient Procedure Center 206-987-5533
- Bellevue Surgery Center 206-884-9200
- Ask your child's healthcare provider
- seattlechildrens.org

Free Interpreter Services

- In the hospital, ask your 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.


Hibiclens Bathing and Antibiotic Ointment Instructions

Follow the instructions checked below:

**Bathe with Hibiclens
1 day before surgery**

Help your child shower or bathe with Hibiclens soap the night before the surgery. Follow the instructions in this handout.

Give the bath on: _____

	5 days before surgery	4 days before surgery	3 days before surgery	2 days before surgery	1 day before surgery	Surgery date:
Hibiclens soap: 1 time a day	X	X	X	X		

**Bathe with Hibiclens
2 days before
surgery**

Starting 2 days before the surgery, help your child shower or bathe with Hibiclens soap daily for 2 days before surgery. Follow the instructions in this handout.

Start the baths on: _____

	5 days before surgery	4 days before surgery	3 days before surgery	2 days before surgery	1 day before surgery	Surgery date:
Hibiclens soap: 1 time a day	X	X	X			

Hibiclens Bathing and Antibiotic Ointment Instructions

- ❑ **Bathe with Hibiclens and use antibiotic ointment in nose (povidone iodine allergy, etc.)**

Starting 5 days before surgery, apply mupirocin ointment in the nostrils 2 times a day for 5 days. Follow the instructions in this handout.

Start the ointment on _____

Starting 2 days before the surgery, help your child shower or bathe with Hibiclens soap daily for 2 days before surgery. Follow the instructions in this handout.

Start the baths on: _____

	5 days before surgery	4 days before surgery	3 days before surgery	2 days before surgery	1 day before surgery	Surgery date:
Ointment: 2 times a day						
Hibiclens soap: 1 time a day						

- ❑ **Bathe with Hibiclens and use antibiotic ointment in nose (History of MRSA infection)**

Starting 5 days before surgery, apply mupirocin ointment in the nostrils 2 times a day for 5 days before the surgery.

Start the ointment on: _____

Starting 5 days before surgery, help your child shower or bathe with Hibiclens soap daily for 5 days before the surgery.

Start the baths on: _____

	5 days before surgery	4 days before surgery	3 days before surgery	2 days before surgery	1 day before surgery	Surgery date:
Ointment: 2 times a day						
Hibiclens soap: 1 time a day						

Bathing or showering steps

Hibiclens is a brand name for a soap called chlorhexidine gluconate (CHG). Do not use Hibiclens if your child has had an allergy to it such as a rash or swelling. If you misplace your packet, you can get Hibiclens soap at most large pharmacies over the counter in the first aid section.

Please follow these instructions for cleaning your child's skin:

1. In the shower or tub, wash the body with regular soap and water first. Wash the hair as usual with your normal shampoo.



2. Rinse the hair and body really well to remove all soap and shampoo.



3. Turn water off to avoid rinsing the Hibiclens off too soon. Drain the tub or remove your child from the water. Do not towel dry your child.



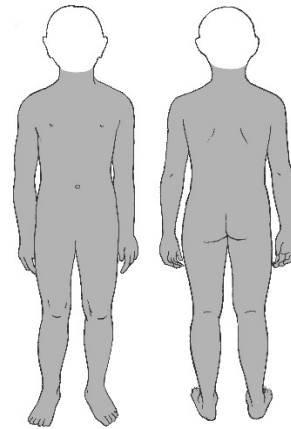
4. Using a clean wet washcloth apply the Hibiclens soap to your child's entire body from the neck down. Do not use Hibiclens above the neck, especially on the face, near the eyes or ears to avoid permanent injury to those areas. Also **avoid** between the labia, the tip of the penis, and entire area you would wipe after peeing and pooping.



Hibiclens Bathing and Antibiotic Ointment Instructions

5. Wash the body gently with the Hibiclens soap for 1 minute, paying special attention to the area where the surgery or procedure will be done (unless your child is having surgery on their head or genitals).

Wash all of the body shaded in gray. Do not wash above the neck.



6. Turn the water back on and rinse the body really well. Do not wash with regular soap after the Hibiclens is used.



7. Pat your child dry with a clean, soft towel.
8. Do not put lotions, powders or oils on your child's skin after bathing.
9. Do not use make up or deodorant after the last Hibiclens bath the night before surgery.



Mupirocin ointment steps

For infants and young children, you may want to swaddle in a strong blanket and have another caregiver help hold their head still.

1. Put a small amount of mupirocin antibiotic ointment on one end of a cotton-tip swab (Q-tips).



2. Apply the medicine all around the inside of one nostril, not going too deeply. Only the cotton tip should go in the nostril.
3. Then, put the ointment on the other (unused) end of the cotton-tip swab, and apply the medicine inside the other nostril. Only the cotton tip should go in the nostril.

