

Name of Child: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

## Using CHG Cloths at Home Before Surgery If your child is between 20-60 pounds

### What are CHG cloths?

CHG (2% chlorhexidine gluconate) cloths are germ-killing (antiseptic) wipes used to clean the skin. Germs live on the skin. CHG cloths kill 99% of the germs on the skin to help prevent germs from causing a serious infection.

### When should CHG cloths be used at home?

- Before your child has surgery or a procedure where the skin will be broken.
- CHG cloths will be used once on the night before the surgery or procedure.
- CHG cloths will be used again the day of surgery or procedure before coming to the hospital.

### Do not use CHG cloths if your child:

- has an allergy to CHG or aloe vera
- is receiving radiation therapy
- is receiving Thiotepa (a chemotherapy drug)
- has severe skin breakdown, rash, burns or open skin wounds

### How to use the CHG cloths:

1. Clean your hands with warm soapy water.
2. Give your child a bath or shower the night before the surgery or procedure. Shampoo your child's hair. Use a clean towel to dry your child. Dry the hair after.
3. Keep the cloths away from your child's eyes, ears, and mouth.
4. Wipe the skin with a CHG cloth using a circular or back and forth motion over the area to be cleaned. Gently wipe the skin, **do not scrub**.
5. After using the CHG cloths, wrap your child in a clean towel until the skin is dry. Wet CHG in between skin folds and around your child's neck can cause irritation.
6. Once the skin is dry, dress your child in clean washed clothes.
7. Before coming to the hospital on the day of the surgery or procedure, wipe the skin again with the CHG cloths. **Do not repeat a bath or shower.**

### Do not:

- Do not use conditioner or any other hair products except for shampoo.
- Do not rinse or wipe off the skin after using the CHG cloths. It is normal for the skin to feel sticky or tacky. Once the skin is dry this feeling will go away.
- Do not use lotion or makeup.
- Do not put the cloths in the microwave.

**Use two packages (4 cloths) for a child between 20- 60 pounds**

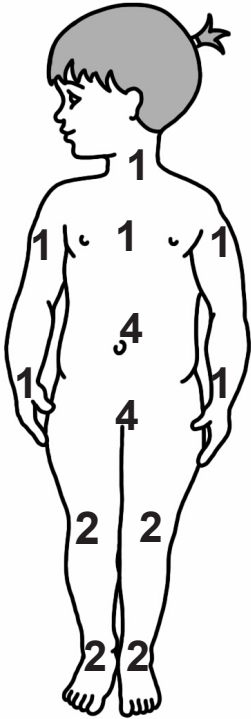
**Cloth 1:** Neck (front and back), chest, both arms and hands

**Cloth 2:** Legs and feet

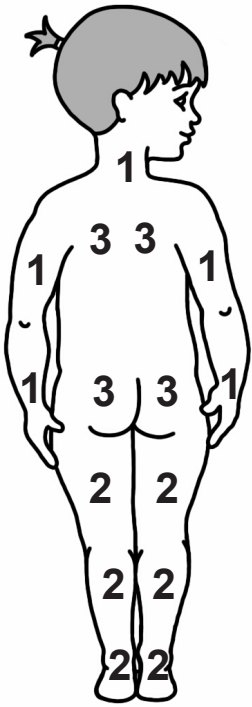
**Cloth 3:** Back and bottom

**Cloth 4:** Belly, then private parts. Wipe the private parts from front to back. Wipe private parts last.

**Front**



**Back**



**Now that you've read this:**

- Tell your nurse or doctor why CHG cloths are used at home. (Check when done.)
  
- Tell your nurse or doctor when and how you will use CHG cloths at home. (Check when done.)



If you have any questions or concerns,  
 call your child's doctor or  call \_\_\_\_\_

If you want to know more about child health and illness,  
visit our library at The Emily Center at Phoenix Children's Hospital  
1919 East Thomas Road  
Phoenix, AZ 85016  
602-933-1400  
866-933-6459  
[www.phoenixchildrens.org](http://www.phoenixchildrens.org)  
[www.theemilycenter.org](http://www.theemilycenter.org)  
Facebook: [facebook.com/theemilycenter](https://www.facebook.com/theemilycenter)  
Twitter: @emilycenter  
Pinterest: [pinterest.com/emilycenter](https://www.pinterest.com/emilycenter)

**Disclaimer**

The information provided at this site is intended to be general information, and is provided for educational purposes only. It is not intended to take the place of examination, treatment, or consultation with a physician. Phoenix Children's Hospital urges you to contact your physician with any questions you may have about a medical condition.

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#1602 • Written by Esther Muñoz, RN, BSN, CIC and Kiley Bernhard, MPH  
• Illustrated by Christine Rimmel

# Using CHG Cloths at Home Before Surgery

## If your child is between 20-60 pounds

Name of Health Care Provider: \_\_\_\_\_

Date returned: \_\_\_\_\_  db

## Family Review of Handout

Health care providers: Please teach families with this handout.

Families: Please let us know what you think of this handout.

Would you say this handout is hard to read?  Yes  No

easy to read?  Yes  No

Please circle the parts of the handout that were hard to understand.

Would you say this handout is interesting to read?  Yes  No

Why or why not?

Would you do anything differently after reading  
this handout?  Yes  No

If yes, what?

After reading this handout, do you have any  
questions about the subject?  Yes  No

If yes, what?

Is there anything you don't like about the drawings?

Yes

No

If yes, what?

What changes would you make in this handout to make it better or easier to understand?

Please return your review of this handout to your nurse or doctor or send it to the address below.

The Emily Center  
Health Education Specialist  
Phoenix Children's Hospital  
1919 East Thomas Road  
Phoenix, AZ 85016-7710

602-933-1395

**Thank you for helping us!**