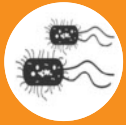


PRE-OPERATIVE SKIN PREPARATION

To assist in the reduction of surgical site infections by reducing the microorganisms that live on the skin, the hospital policy recommends that you thoroughly cleanse and disinfect your skin prior to your admission to hospital for your operation. To achieve the best results, follow the instructions below.



- The preferred solution for skin cleansing is Chlorhexidine Gluconate 4% Pre-Op Wash
- **Two 50ml tubes** of this liquid soap are needed for the two showers required. If your surgeon has not provided them, they can be purchased from a pharmacy
- If you have a hypersensitivity (allergy) to chlorhexidine gluconate, pharmacist advice is recommended and an alternative such as Triclosan may be dispensed

Pre-operative wash application instructions

(To be performed the evening before and just prior to leaving home on the day of surgery)

1. Remove all jewellery and nail polish before washing.
2. Wet your whole body in the shower, including your face and hair
3. Shampoo your HAIR using a small amount of the body wash. Use your normal conditioner afterwards and rinse thoroughly.
4. Apply the body wash to ALL BODY AREAS. Make sure to wash under your ARMS, behind your EARS and your KNEES, your GROIN area and BUTTOCKS, and between any skin folds. Avoid contact with EYES.
5. The body wash will not lather very much, and that is normal.
6. When you have finished applying the body wash, **leave it on your skin for at least one minute or count to 60 before rinsing it off.**
7. Dry yourself thoroughly with a freshly laundered towel.
8. Do not use any further products on your body after your final shower.
9. Freshly laundered clothes should be worn afterwards and fresh bed linen used.