**Preoperative Skin Wash**

Your role in helping to prevent a surgical site infection

You can reduce the amount of bacteria on your skin by carefully washing with a special soap called Chlorhexidine Gluconate (CHG).

* A common brand name for this soap is Hibiclens, but any brand of CHG is acceptable to use available in **8 oz bottles** from your local drug store or Amazon
* If you have sensitive skin, you may use Dial Antibacterial soap instead of CHG.
* Following these instructions will help ensure that your skin is clean before surgery
* Do Not use CHG if you are allergic to chlorhexidine, use Dial instead

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**When to shower with the CHG solution**

**For five days prior to surgery:**

1. Remove all jewelry (*jewelry must remain off until after surgery*)
2. Take a shower with your normal soap, shampoo, & conditioner
3. Rinse off your normal soap products & turn off the water
4. Using a clean, wet washcloth, pour some Hibiclens onto the cloth and scrub gently at the area of surgery first for 3-5 seconds. Then wash from your *neck down.*
5. Leave the Hibiclens soap on for 5 minutes
6. Rinse off and dry off with a clean towel

**The Morning of Surgery**

1. Do not shower the morning of your surgery, we will be doing a final skin prep when you arrive
2. Wear clean and comfortable clothes to the surgery center
3. Nail polish from at least one finger on each hand must be removed prior to surgery