

# Using CHG wipes when your child has a central line

Let's work together to prevent Central Line Associated Bloodstream Infections (CLABSIs).



## What is a Central Line Associated Bloodstream Infection (CLABSI)?

CLABSIs are infections that can happen when germs enter into the blood through the central line, like a port or PICC line. A blood infection is very serious and can be life threatening.

### Parents/caregivers may like to help by:

- Washing their hands when entering or leaving the patient room
- Bathing the child daily with soap and water before CHG treatment
- Changing the bed sheets and clothing daily
- Doing a daily CHG treatment
- Keeping the room clean and tidy for easy cleaning by hospital staff

Discuss with your healthcare team if you would like to participate in this part of the care.

### What are CHG Treatments?

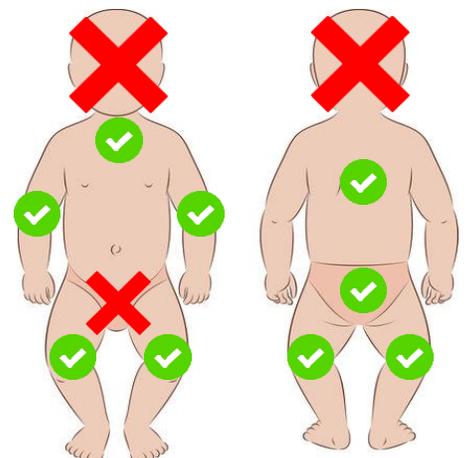
Chlorhexidine gluconate (CHG) is a cleaning product that kills germs. They are used for patients with central lines to prevent infection. It is normal that germs live on the skin, CHG wipes are used to kill 99% of those germs that could cause an infection.

### When should CHG treatments be used?

CHG treatments are **used every day** to prevent infection. Your child's skin may feel sticky after using the CHG wipes. This feeling should go away once the skin is dry. A bath/shower is optional if your child receives CHG treatment.

### Where on the body are CHG treatments used?

USE on:	DO NOT use on:
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>✓ Neck</li> <li>✓ Chest</li> <li>✓ Abdomen</li> <li>✓ Arms and underarms</li> <li>✓ Legs and feet</li> <li>✓ Back and buttock</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>☒ Eyes</li> <li>☒ Ears</li> <li>☒ Nose</li> <li>☒ Mouth</li> <li>☒ Head or scalp</li> <li>☒ Wounds</li> <li>☒ Genitals</li> </ul>



## Do not use CHG treatment if your child:

- Is under the age of 2 months
- Has an allergy to chlorhexidine
- Has generalized skin breakdown (ex: open wound, rash)
- Is receiving phototherapy
- Is a hematology or oncology patient



## Do the wipes have side effects?

As with many skin products, your child could develop: redness, dryness, sensitivity, hives, or itching to the skin. Notify your healthcare team if you notice these symptoms.

## Tell your healthcare team:

- If your child is allergic to CHG
- If your child has had a previous reaction to CHG or develops a reaction after CHG treatment
- If you have concerns about your child's central line dressing (example: dressing becomes wet, or is lifting)

## When using CHG wipes...

DO:	DO NOT:
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Use shower guards if child is taking bath/shower after CHG wipe</li><li>• Wait at least 1 hour before CHG treatment if child takes a shower/bath</li><li>• Allow your child's skin to air dry after CHG treatment</li><li>• Place your child in clean clothing and clean bed sheets after CHG treatment</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Bathe/shower for 6 hours after CHG treatment</li><li>• Apply lotions/powder to skin after CHG treatment</li><li>• Flush CHG wipes down the toilet</li><li>• Microwave CHG wipes, they can be provided from hospital warmer</li><li>• Do not rinse, wash, or wipe off the CHG</li></ul>

## How do STAFF prevent CLABSIs while in hospital?

- Washing their hands when entering or leaving the room and before touching the central line
- Checking the central line site and dressing regularly
- Keeping the central line clean when doing bloodwork or giving medications/fluids
- Changing the dressing, tubing and connectors regularly
- Daily bath and linen change
- Daily skin treatment with CHG
- Wiping high touch surfaces daily