

## **Olympia Surgery Center**

### **Chlorhexidine Preop Instructions**

The purpose of the Chlorhexidine wipe prior to surgery is to decrease the skin microorganisms at the surgery site. Decreasing the skin microorganisms at the surgical site will help prevent a surgical site Infection.

#### **THE NIGHT BEFORE YOUR SURGERY:**

- 1) Please shower and wash your body with an antibacterial soap such as Dial or Hibiclens. Rinse thoroughly and use a clean towel to dry your skin completely. DO NOT apply any lotions, creams, moisturizers, or deodorants.
- 2) Please use both wipes in the package.
- 3) Wipe from the surgical site outward to adjacent areas. Vigorously wipe skin back and forth for about 3 minutes, completely wetting treatment area, and then discard. Avoid contact with your eyes, ears, mouth and genitals.
- 4) Allow the area to air dry for one minute. DO NOT rinse off or shower again after using the wipes. It is normal for the skin to have a temporary “tacky” feeling for several minutes after the antiseptic solution has been applied.
- 5) Sleep in clean clothes and on clean sheets.
- 6) To avoid irritation or damage to the surgical site, please use caution when cleansing the skin. Avoid shaving the operative extremity at least 2 days prior to surgery.  
\*\*\*If you are having a Joint Replacement, avoid shaving the operative extremity 7-10 days prior to your surgery.
- 7) If you notice skin irritation at the surgical site, please contact your physician as soon as possible.

If you have any questions, please call (360) 528-8567

Thank you and we appreciate the opportunity to serve you.

**Olympia Surgery Center Team**