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## **Pre-Op Hibiclens Shower/Bath**

### **What is Hibiclens?**

Hibiclens is a gentle cleanser that aids in reducing bacterial infections. It has an antiseptic activity on a wide range of organisms. Using this soap will help remove any dangerous bacteria you may be carrying on your own skin that could enter your surgical incision and cause an infection.

### **How should I use this medication?**

Please take a shower or bath as you normally would for 2 days prior to surgery and on the morning of surgery. You will need to use at least 2 tablespoons of Hibiclens to take a full-body shower. Keep the soap away from your eyes and ears. This medication should not be taken by mouth and should be kept away from children. We realize that you may not receive this information far enough in advance to complete the entire regimen. If this occurs, use the medication as many times as possible prior to surgery. It is very important that you follow these directions to ensure the best possible surgical outcome.

### **What are the known side effects of this medication?**

The following side effects should be reported to your physician:

- Shortness of breath
- Rash
- Hives
- Itching
- Swelling of tongue or throat
- Cough
- Skin irritation

Topical use of Hibiclens may cause an allergic reaction, which can be severe. If you become symptomatic, please discontinue use and notify a health care provider immediately.

### **Where can I get this medication?**

Hibiclens can be purchased at your local pharmacy. No prescription is required. The cost is approximately \$10.00 for an eight-ounce bottle.

### **Who can I call if I have questions about this medication?**

If you have any questions, please contact your Plastic Surgery Nurse (706) 721-4296.