



NEONATAL MEDICATION GUIDELINE

Chlorhexidine 1% Topical Lotion

Scope (Staff): Nursing, Medical and Pharmacy Staff

Scope (Area): KEMH NICU, PCH NICU, NETS WA

This document should be read in conjunction with the [Disclaimer](#).

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Description

Antiseptic

Presentation

Emollient Lotion: 10mg/g (1%)

Storage

Store at room temperature, below 25°C

Dose

Reduction of transient colonisation of potentially pathogenic bacteria in infants in incubators and cots

Topical:

To be used on alternate days as per [Chlorhexidine Wash Procedure](#)

Staphylococcus aureus decolonisation (e.g. prior to high risk surgical procedure or central venous access device insertion)

Topical:

Apply ONCE a day for 5 days

Preparation

Topical

Warm the solution prior to administration.

Administration

Topical

Ensure infant is completely dry prior to application

Apply sparingly on cotton wool to the body and head including the hands, paying particular attention to the cord stump and body creases. Do NOT apply to the face.

Side Effects

Common: Allergic sensitisation, erythema, hypersensitivity reaction, rough skin

Serious: Anaphylaxis, dyspnoea, facial oedema

Monitoring

Skin reactions.

Check axilla temperature 1 hour after application.

Comments

Ensure all ECG leads are replaced after application.

For infants in incubators, place the lotion inside the incubator for warming prior to application.

For infants in cots, warm the lotion by applying to cotton wool and hold between gloved hands.

Related Policies, Procedures & Guidelines

CAHS Neonatology Clinical Guidelines:

[Chlorhexidine Wash Procedure](#)

[Skin Care Guideline](#)

CAHS ChAMP Guideline:

[Staphylococcus aureus Decolonisation - Paediatric](#)

References

Takemoto CK, Hodding JH, Kraus DM. Pediatric & neonatal dosage handbook with international trade names index : a universal resource for clinicians treating pediatric and neonatal patients. 24th ed. Hudson (Ohio): Lexicomp; 2019. P410.

Chlorhexidine 1% Topical Solution

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