



SURGICAL ASSOCIATES

Patient Education

Pre-Op Hibiclens Shower

What is Hibiclens?

Hibiclens is a gentle cleanser that aids in reducing bacterial infections. Using this soap will help to remove any dangerous bacteria you may be carrying on your skin that could enter your surgical incision and cause an infection.

How should I use this medication?

- Please take a shower as you normally would every day for **FIVE (5)** days prior to your surgery and on the **morning of surgery**.
- Wash and rinse your hair using your normal shampoo. Make sure you completely rinse the shampoo from your hair and body.
- You need to use at least two (2) tablespoons of Hibiclens to take a full-body shower. Wash your body from the neck down. Keep the soap away from your eyes and ears.
- Apply some light friction during the scrub to improve the effect of the solution. Avoid scrubbing too hard.
- Be sure to scrub any crevices or skin folds carefully, **especially groin areas**. Leave the Hibiclens on for one minute. Using warm water, rinse the Hibiclens solution off your skin completely.
- Do not wash with regular soap after you have used Hibiclens.
- Pat yourself dry with a clean, fresh towel. After using Hibiclens, **do not** apply any powders, deodorants or lotions.

We realize that sometimes you may not receive this information far enough in advance to complete the entire regimen. If this occurs, use the Hibiclens as many days 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 are extremely uncommon, but if they occur, please report to your physician:

- Shortness of breath
- Skin irritation or itching
- Rash or hives
- Swelling of tongue or throat
- Cough

This medication should not be taken by mouth, and should be kept away from children.

Where can I get this medication?

Hibiclens can be purchased at Surgical Associates for \$5. It is also available at your local pharmacy for approximately \$10 for an eight-ounce bottle. No prescription is required.

If you have any questions, please contact Surgical Associates at **1-888-278-3795** or **715-847-2022**.