

# Surrey Memorial Hospital (SMH) Scrub Busters Pilot Project to Reduce Surgical Site Infections

## Team Goal

To reduce surgical site infections (SSIs) among total hip arthroplasty patients at Surrey Memorial Hospital (SMH) through presurgical application of no-rinse 2% chlorhexidine gluconate (CHG) impregnated washcloths from Aug/13-Feb/14

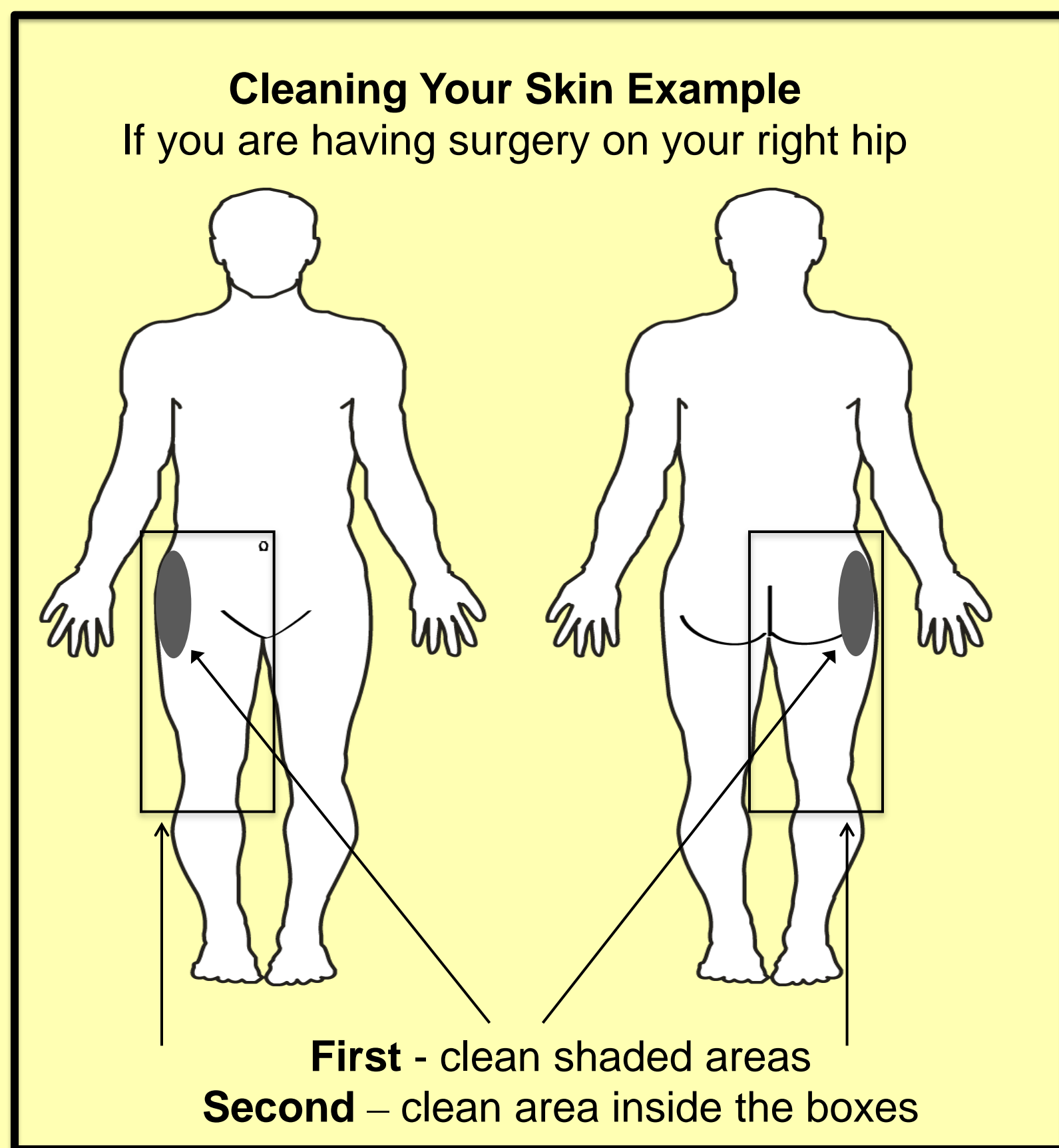


Diagram from teaching sheet illustrating where patients are to use washcloths.



Cloths containing 2% chlorhexidine gluconate were given to study participants to wash the surgical site the night before and morning of surgery.

## Surgical Site Infections

Surgical site infections place an enormous burden on patients, families, health care providers, and the system as a whole. SSIs are widely prevalent. This is a pilot project to see if the use of 2% CHG cloths will lower the rate of SSIs in our Total Hip Replacement patients.

## Actions

- ✓Conducted literature search and review of the literature
- ✓Obtained research ethics approval
- ✓Developed detailed teaching sheet for patients on how to use CHG washcloths
- ✓Secured a mentor for the study
- ✓Started recruitment process of total hip replacement patients at the Preadmission Clinic in the Jim Pattison Outpatient Care and Surgical Centre (JPOCSC)
- ✓Implemented the use of CHG cloths preoperatively for total hip replacement patients in the study
- ✓Worked with nurses in the preadmission clinic to recruit patients and explain the purpose of the study
- ✓Giving patients a questionnaire at surgical admission to see if the cloths were used and providing an honorarium if the questionnaire is completed
- ✓Using NSQIP to monitoring patient outcomes for six consecutive months in 2013-14 and comparing results with outcomes for total hip arthroplasties for six consecutive months in 2010-2011.

## Team Members

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