

3M™ Tegaderm™ CHG Chlorhexidine Gluconate IV Securement Dressing

Commonly Asked Questions

Question:

How much drainage (blood) can the Tegaderm™ CHG gel pad absorb?

Answer:

Tegaderm™ CHG dressing absorbs blood, sweat and exudates. It can absorb up to eight times its weight in saline and three times its weight in blood, providing absorption for light to moderate drainage. Because of size, it has a greater capacity to absorb fluid than any other antimicrobial dressing. Drainage should stay contained within the gel, not leak out beyond the gel pad nor obscure visualization of the site. Tegaderm™ CHG dressing is not designed for absorption of large quantities of blood or drainage.

Question:

When do I need to change the Tegaderm™ CHG dressing?

Answer:

In accordance with current CDC guidelines, transparent adhesive dressings for Central Venous Catheters/PICCs should be changed when the integrity of the dressing is compromised or at seven days. The dressing should be changed if any drainage is not contained in the gel, leaks beyond the gel pad, or obscures visualization of the site. As fluid is absorbed, the gel pad will swell changing the physical properties of the gel (i.e. firmness and consistency). The dressing may become difficult to remove if the gel becomes “too soft” or oversaturated. A simple test to evaluate gel pad integrity is to depress the gel pad lightly with your finger. If the gel remains displaced, the dressing should be changed.

Question:

Can Tegaderm™ CHG dressing be left on for 10 days?

Answer:

Tegaderm™ CHG dressing has been shown to effectively inhibit re-growth of skin flora on healthy subjects for up to 10 days. However, consistent with current CDC 2002 Guidelines and INS 2006 Standards, dressing may be safely left in place for up to seven days.

Question:

Does 25% CHG provide better antisepsis than 2% CHG?

Answer:

Studies on skin flora of healthy subjects have shown Tegaderm™ CHG dressing provides effective antimicrobial action. Tegaderm™ CHG dressing has lower concentration of CHG by weight than BIOPATCH®. While the relative volume of CHG available on patient skin has not been studied, Tegaderm™ CHG dressing has been demonstrated to be effective, or better, at reducing skin flora on healthy subjects than BIOPATCH®.

Question:

How does chlorhexidine gluconate work in the Tegaderm™ CHG dressing gel pad?

Answer:

CHG is an active antimicrobial component of the Tegaderm™ CHG dressing gel pad. The gel is composed of water, 2% chlorhexidine gluconate and other polymers. The aqueous nature of the gel pad and CHG allow for immediate antimicrobial action upon application to skin.

Question:

If we use Tegaderm™ CHG dressing do we still need to use a skin prep?

Answer:

Yes. According to CDC 2002 Guidelines, disinfect clean skin with an appropriate antiseptic before catheter insertion and during dressing changes. A 2% chlorhexidine-based preparation is preferred.

Tegaderm™ CHG dressing is designed to work with any prepping agent. Use of Tegaderm™ CHG dressing has been demonstrated to reduce skin flora counts on healthy subjects to lower levels than can be achieved with skin preps alone. In addition, antimicrobial protection will be provided continuously at the site for up to ten days, whereas no prep claims to have activity past 48 hours. (However, consistent with current CDC 2002 Guidelines and INS 2006 Standards, dressing may be safely left in place for up to 7 days.)

Question:

Can I use Tegaderm™ CHG dressing together with 3M™ Cavilon™ No Sting Barrier Film?

Answer:

Yes. Cavilon™ No Sting Barrier Film is compatible with Tegaderm™ CHG dressing. Sterile Cavilon™ No Sting Barrier Film may be used to prevent adhesive trauma. It should be carefully applied to the skin, avoiding the area immediately surrounding the insertion site and where the CHG gel pad is placed. Cavilon™ No Sting Barrier Film wand applicators #3343 or #3345 are recommended for IV sites; Cavilon™ No Sting Barrier Film in spray form (3346) should not be used for IV sites.

Question:

How can 3M™ Tegaderm™ CHG Dressings be both Occlusive and Breathable?

Answer:

Tegaderm™ CHG Dressing consists of a gel pad containing CHG integrated with a Tegaderm™ Film Dressing. Moisture readily passes through the gel to the cover film to be released as vapor. The Tegaderm™ Film acts as a selective filter. It is a barrier to external liquids, bacteria, and viruses* and breathable, allowing water vapor, oxygen, and carbon dioxide to be easily exchanged. *(*In vitro* testing shows that Tegaderm™ CHG provides a viral barrier from viruses 27 nm in diameter (e.g. HCV) or larger (e.g. HBV and HIV) while the dressing remains intact without leakage.)

Question:

Is Tegaderm™ CHG dressing waterproof?

Answer:

Yes. However, in order to prevent contamination (e.g. catheter hub) during bathing or showering, it is recommended the dressing and catheter hub be protected by covering both with a waterproof material such as 3M™ Tegaderm™ Transparent Film Roll. (A non-adherent layer between Tegaderm™ CHG dressing and Tegaderm™ Transparent Film Roll is required).

Question:

What is the best way to remove Tegaderm™ CHG dressing?

Answer:

Slowly peel the dressing from the skin, towards the insertion site using the “low and slow” removal method. To facilitate removal of the gel pad from the catheter and manufactured catheter stabilization device, use of a sterile fluid (e.g. saline, alcohol wipe or swab) is recommended. (Note: alcohol should not be used for epidural catheters.) As the gel pad adhesion is released, continue the low and slow removal method. See the Tegaderm™ CHG dressing interactive in-service tool at www.3m.com/tegadermchg for complete removal instructions.

Question:

Can I use Tegaderm™ CHG dressing on diaphoretic patients?

Answer:

Yes, Tegaderm™ CHG dressing is designed to absorb up to 8 times its weight in perspiration (approximately 3 teaspoons of saline solution). Tegaderm™ CHG dressing maintains antimicrobial effectiveness in the presence of perspiration and other fluids and will prevent re-growth of skin flora.

Question:

Can Tegaderm™ CHG dressing be used on infants?

Answer:

Tegaderm™ CHG dressing is not recommended for use on premature infants or infants under 2 months of age. Tegaderm™ CHG dressing has not been studied on infants. Current literature about the use of CHG on premature infants suggests that use of Tegaderm™ CHG on infants with under-developed skin could result in hypersensitivity or necrosis of the skin.

Question:

Can I use this dressing for implanted ports?

Answer:

Tegaderm™ CHG dressing is effective where the CHG gel pad is in contact with skin and its surrounding inhibition zone. There have been no specific clinical studies related to the use of this dressing with accessed implanted ports.

Question:

What other devices can Tegaderm™ CHG dressing be used with?

Answer:

Tegaderm™ CHG dressing can be used with any device that would benefit from skin flora reduction. Devices at risk for microbial contamination that could benefit from Tegaderm™ CHG dressing include, but are not limited to: any intravenous, intra-arterial, epidural, and hyperdemoclysis therapies, and all dialysis catheters. Tegaderm™ CHG is designed for skin applications and not mucosal use.

Question:

Is Tegaderm™ CHG dressing effective when the gel pad covers the suture wing?

Answer:

Tegaderm™ CHG dressing is effective where the CHG gel pad is in contact with the skin and its surrounding inhibition zone. When applied to sutured catheters and sutured devices additional antimicrobial barrier protection is provided to the suture site as well as the insertion site.

Question:

Can Tegaderm™ CHG dressing be safely used with hyperbaric treatments?

Answer:

There have been no specific clinical studies related to the use of Tegaderm™ CHG with hyperbaric treatments.

Question:

Can Tegaderm™ CHG dressing be used to treat a site infection?

Answer:

Tegaderm™ CHG dressing is not indicated for treatment of a suspected or known site infection.

Question:

Will use of the Tegaderm™ CHG dressing cause any increase growth of drug resistant organisms?

Answer:

No, chlorhexidine gluconate is an antiseptic which attacks and destroys bacteria by mechanisms which do not result in growth of organisms that are resistant to antibiotics.

Question:

Can the gel pad be cut to create a customized dressing?

Answer:

3M has not studied this application and makes no recommendation.

For More Information

Visit our website at www.3m.com/skinhealth, contact your 3M Health Care Representative, or call the 3M Health Care Customer Helpline at **1-800-228-3957**. These products can be ordered from your local distributor. Outside the United States, contact your local 3M subsidiary.



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