

# Patient Care Instructions for the 3M™ Tegaderm™ CHG Chlorhexidine Gluconate IV Securement Dressing

## Introduction

This patient guide is designed to help you monitor your 3M™ Tegaderm™ CHG dressing. However, this is only a guide and should be used together with the advice of your healthcare provider.

### What is CHG?

CHG stands for chlorhexidine gluconate. CHG is the antimicrobial and antifungal antiseptic that is contained in the gel part of your Tegaderm™ CHG dressing. The CHG prevents bacteria from growing on your skin.

### What is the Tegaderm™ CHG Chlorhexidine Gluconate IV Securement Dressing?

The Tegaderm™ CHG Dressing is the covering used over your catheter site and it has 3 important functions:

1. To protect the catheter site from outside bacterial and viral\* contamination.
2. To help stabilize the catheter so it does not move or come out.
3. To reduce skin bacteria, a cause of catheter-related bloodstream infection.

Because of these important functions of the dressing, it is important to monitor your dressing so it can function properly.

### How do I monitor my dressing?

You need to inspect your dressing daily. Call your healthcare provider if you experience any of the following changes:

- The edges are starting to lift and no longer adhere to the skin
- The dressing has gotten dirty
- You can no longer see your insertion site
- You can see moisture under the dressing
- The gel pad of the dressing has absorbed too much fluid

**Note:** If you experience bleeding at your insertion site, call your healthcare provider immediately.

\*In vitro testing shows that the transparent film of the Tegaderm™ CHG dressing provides a viral barrier from viruses 27 nm in diameter or larger while the dressing remains intact without leakage.



# Inspect your dressing Daily



# Monitor your Dressing



## How can I tell if the gel pad of the dressing has absorbed too much fluid and the dressing needs to be changed?

It will be easiest to tell if the gel pad has absorbed too much fluid by getting to know the gel when you first get home and inspect it daily to see if it changes.

When you get home, look at the size of the gel pad and touch the gel pad. You will notice that it is firm. As the gel pad absorbs fluid, it will swell and get larger in size. When you touch it, it will feel jelly-like and not firm to the touch. Push your finger on the corner of the gel pad, it will not bounce back to the original shape if it has absorbed too much fluid; the indent of your finger will remain after you take your finger away. The gel pad may absorb too much fluid if you perspire or if you shower or bathe and the site wasn't properly covered.

These are signs that the gel pad has absorbed too much fluid and you should call your healthcare provider.

## What can happen if I let the dressing stay on my skin when the gel has absorbed too much fluid?

You can think of the gel pad like a baby's diaper. A baby's diaper may be able to hold an enormous amount of fluid, but that doesn't mean that it should be left on the baby. You would want to prevent skin irritation and change the diaper. Like the diaper, the Tegaderm™ CHG gel pad will continue to absorb fluid, which may lead to skin irritation if the dressing is not changed.

## Can I shower or bathe when wearing this dressing?

Follow any instructions given to you by your healthcare provider when it comes to showering or bathing. When showering or bathing, make sure you use an additional cover over your dressing to protect it from any water. If any water leaks into the dressing, you should contact your healthcare provider.

Call your healthcare provider if you have any other questions.

**3M™ Tegaderm™**  
Dressings SIMPLE. DEPENDABLE. TRUSTED.

**3M**

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