



**Chlorhexidine/Alcohol Solution Decanting Guidelines**

<b>Purpose</b>	To provide a guideline for decanting of Chlorhexidine (CHG) Solution 2% w 70% Alcohol from a multi-use container into another container for immediate (same day) single-patient use.
<b>Background</b>	There are international shortages of Stevens- Applicator CHG 2% Sterile/Swabpad 2% CHG 70% Isopro products. Alternative solutions are required in order to ensure availability of these products for skin antiseptis. Infection Prevention and Control/Logistics identified this product as a safe and effective alternative.
<b>Required Materials</b>	Chlorhexidine (CHG) Solution 2% w 70% Alcohol 500 mL bottles Empty sterile container(s) for decanting into WHMIS Workplace Label Facility approved disinfectant Alcohol-based hand rub (ABHR) Eye protection Gloves

**The Process:**

<b>Step</b>	<b>1) Space/Area for Decanting Chlorhexidine (CHG) Solution 2% w 70% Alcohol</b>
1.1	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- There must be a dedicated space/area. The decanting process shall not occur in patient/resident/client care areas.               <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>o The space must have restricted or secured access</li> <li>o The space must be designated a “clean” area</li> <li>o The space must include an area for hand hygiene and donning/doffing personal protective equipment (PPE)</li> <li>o The space must have adequate ventilation; avoid breathing in vapours</li> <li>o The space must not have carpet</li> <li>o The space must have a fire sprinkler system</li> <li>o The space must have a fire extinguisher</li> </ul> </li> <li>- Eyewash station and safety shower in working area as required by SDS.</li> <li>- There shall be spill response supplies as required according to the SDS available               <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>o If spills occur, the area must be cleaned after</li> </ul> </li> </ul>

<b>Step</b>	<b>2) Worker</b>
2.1	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Dedicated worker(s) shall be orientated/trained on the decanting process as per organization protocols.</li> <li>- Use protective gloves and eye protection as required by SDS.</li> </ul>



Step	3) Process for Decanting into smaller container(s)
3.1	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- Safety Data Sheets (SDS) must be available when decanting.</li><li>- Decanting shall not occur near any sources of ignition or open flame, such as heat sealers</li><li>- Perform hand hygiene and clean/disinfect all decanting surfaces using a facility approved disinfectant<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>o A list of approved disinfectants can be found at <a href="https://sharedhealthmb.ca/files/facility-approved-disinfectants.pdf">https://sharedhealthmb.ca/files/facility-approved-disinfectants.pdf</a></li></ul></li><li>- Perform hand hygiene and don PPE as required by SDS (gloves and eye protection at a minimum)</li><li>- Check the expiry date of the 500 ml bottle and discard if past the date of expiry.</li><li>- Decant solution from 500 ml bottle into one or more empty sterile containers:<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>o Remove caps of 500 mL bottle and empty sterile container(s). If setting caps down, ensure open side is up.</li><li>o Do not touch the bottle/container neck, rim, or inside of the cap.</li><li>o Fill empty sterile container(s) with solution from 500 ml bottle.</li><li>o Apply caps to filled container(s) and to 500 ml bottle.</li><li>o When finished decanting, remove PPE and perform hand hygiene</li></ul></li><li>- When the 500 ml bottle is first opened, record the following information on the bottle:<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>o date of opening;</li><li>o date the bottle is to be discarded (30 days after opening or expiry date – whatever comes first); and</li><li>o initials of the person who opened the bottle</li></ul></li><li>- Apply WHIMIS Workplace Label and record the following information on the filled sterile container(s):<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>o name of the patient</li><li>o date the container is to be discarded (same day it was decanted); and</li><li>o initials of the person who decanted the solution</li></ul></li><li>- Store bottle/container(s) in a clean area protected from contamination and discard on discard date recorded on bottle/container(s).</li><li>- Do not top-off or refill any bottles or containers; discard once empty as per site process.</li></ul>