

Antiseptic Body Wash – Pre-operative Patient Instructions

Using an antiseptic body wash before your operation can reduce the risk of infection at the site of surgery. The body wash you have been given is designed to replace your usual shampoo, soap or shower gel and should be used before you have your operation as directed below:

Hair – Your hair should be washed using the antiseptic body wash provided at **least once** during the five days before your operation.

Skin – You must shower or wash **each day** for **five days** before and on the **day of your operation** using the antiseptic body wash provided.

Procedure

1. Ensure your body is wet. If you are using a shower, turn off the shower once your skin is wet.
2. Wash your face with undiluted body wash, especially around the nose. **Avoid your eyes and ears.**
3. Apply undiluted body wash to your skin. Pay particular attention to your armpits, groins and feet. **Do not use on genitals.**
4. Leave the body wash on your skin for one minute before rinsing off.
5. Repeat steps 2 to 4 again.
6. Dry yourself using a clean, dry towel.