VAGINAL IRRIGATION

AIM
The administration of a vaginal douche to
- Irrigate and cleanse the vagina prior to surgery.
- To control odour in the presence of infection or offensive loss due to a tumour.

EQUIPMENT
- Irrigation as prescribed
- Irrigation administration set (non sterile)
- Jug
- Disposable gloves
- Continence sheet (bluey)
- Bedpan and cover
- Lubricating jelly

PROCEDURE
- Explain the procedure and gain verbal consent.
- Ensure the woman’s bladder is empty prior to performing the procedure.
- Place a continence sheet under the woman’s buttocks.
- Place the woman on the bedpan with her knees flexed and legs abducted. Use a pillow for support. Cover the woman to maintain privacy.
- Perform hand hygiene and don gloves.
- Check the tubing and nozzle are securely connected.
- Lubricate the nozzle.
- Pour the solution into the irrigation bag. Prime the line, expel any air and clamp the tubing.
- Gently part the labia and insert the irrigation nozzle approximately 5cm into the vagina.
- Unclamp the tubing and allow all the solution to drain gently into the vagina.
• When complete, reclamp the tubing and remove the nozzle.

• Encourage the woman to cough or bear down to expel the fluid.

• Remove the bedpan and clean and dry the woman.

• Document the administration in the woman’s notes and care plan.

FLAGYL VAGINAL IRRIGATION

• Preparation as for vaginal irrigation.

• Run the Flagyl solution at low pressure into the vagina.

• Following administration, dry the area and cover with a clean sanitary pad or combine.

• Instruct the woman to remain supine for one hour.

• Document the administration in the woman’s notes and care plan.

Do not keep printed versions of guidelines as currency of information cannot be guaranteed. Access the current version from the WNHS website.