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WOMEN AND NEWBORN HEALTH SERVICE
King Edward Memorial Hospital

NCCU CLINICAL GUIDELINES
SECTION: 8

INFECTION, SEPTIC SCREENING AND MANAGEMENT

Section 8: Infection, septic screen and management
Anti-staphylococcal procedure.
Date last revision: Feb 2010
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Neonatology Clinical Guidelines
King Edward Memorial/Princess Margaret Hospitals
Perth Western Australia
Authorisation & review by
Neonatal Coordinating group

ANTI-STAPHYLOCOCCAL PROCEDURE.

To reduce the transient colonization of potentially pathogenic bacteria.

KEY POINT
- Chlorhexidine emulsion 1%
- Use on infants in incubators on day 1 then on alternate days.
- Use on infants in open cots on day 1 then on alternate days until having routine baths.
- Should never be applied to excoriated or ulcerated areas of skin.

INFANTS IN INCUBATORS
1. Warm the chlorhexidine solution.
2. Increase the incubator temperature by 2 °C.
3. Remove ECG leads if condition stable and not <27weeks.
4. Weigh the infant (if applicable)
5. Minimal cleanse with cotton wool and warm water
6. Dry thoroughly, especially in body creases.
7. Apply chlorhexidine solution on a cotton wool sparingly to the body and head, paying particular attention to the cord stump and body creases. Do not apply to hands and face.
8. Replace ECG if removed
9. Return incubator temp to original level.
10. Check Axilla temp in 1hour.

INFANTS IN COTS
1. Warm the chlorhexidine solution.
2. Remove ECG leads.
3. Weigh the infant (if applicable).
4. Bath and dry thoroughly.
5. Apply chlorhexidine solution on a cotton wool sparingly to the body and head, paying particular attention to the cord stump and body creases. Do not apply to hands and face.
6. Replace ECG leads.
7. Check axilla temp in 1hour if needed.