

Comparison 1: Preoperative bathing with CHG vs. plain soap

Quality assessment							№ of patients		Effect		Quality
№ of studies	Study design	Risk of bias	Inconsistency	Indirectness	Imprecision	Other considerations	With CHG	With soap	Relative (95% CI)	Absolute (95% CI)	
Surgical site infection											
7	RCTs	serious ¹	not serious	not serious	not serious	none	626/5713 (11.0%)	663/5614 (11.8%)	OR: 0.92 (0.80-1.04)	8 fewer per 1000 (from 4 more to 21 fewer)	⊕⊕⊕○ MODERATE
Surgical site infection											
2	Observational studies	serious ¹	not serious	not serious	serious ²	none	159/2812 (5.7%)	153/2948 (5.2%)	OR: 1.10 (0.87-1.38)	5 more per 1000 (from 6 fewer to 18 more)	⊕○○○ VERY LOW

1. Risk of performance bias
2. Optimal information size is met but CI overlaps no effect and fails to exclude important benefit or important harm (RR or RRR of 25%)

CHG: chlorhexidine gluconate; CI: confidence interval; OR: odds ratio; RCT: randomized controlled trial; RR: relative risk; RRR: relative risk reduction