

# Decolonization Pre-Launch Checklist for the Infection Preventionist

## ***Adopting Decolonization as a Quality Assurance & Performance Improvement (QAPI) Project***

- Obtain approval from your Quality Assurance Committee and Medical Director
- Discuss the program at Resident's Council
- Notify your local ombudsman
- Add notification letter to the resident admission packet

## ***Product Verification***

- Purchase product: 4% chlorhexidine (CHG) soap, non-cotton disposable cloths/dry wipes, and nasal iodophor (10% povidone-iodine swab)
- CHG and chlorine bleach interact to cause a dark brown stain. Ensure any chlorine bleach in laundry room is switched to peroxide bleach prior to launch. Perform a test run by pouring a small amount of CHG onto an old towel and wash it to confirm no stains (to ensure chlorine bleach is completely out of the laundry system).
- Confirm with central supply to ensure that enough product is on-site to launch
- Ensure CHG is stocked in all shower rooms, utility rooms and resident shower rooms
- Check that each station and medication/treatment cart is stocked with iodophor
- Check that each shower stall has showering instructions posted

## ***CHG Compatibility***

- Call manufacturers to ensure all lotions and non-medicated skin products (e.g., barrier creams) are CHG compatible. If not, switch to a CHG-compatible product.

## ***Staff Training***

- Assign training module with post-test for CNAs
- Assign training module with post-test for nurses
- Ensure all CNAs and nurses watch the 'Decolonization Training Video'

## ***Skin Check***

- Before bathing residents with CHG soap, perform a skin check of all residents to ensure existing irritation or skin sensitivity is documented and not accidentally attributed to the CHG soap. Once the program launches, continue to do this for all new admissions.

## ***MD Order and Care Plan***

- Add MD order for nasal iodophor and decolonization care plan for all residents

**For additional resources, please refer to:**

<https://www.ucihealth.org/shield/nursing-home-decolonization-toolkit>