

Reference:	FOI.16190.24
Subject:	Chlorhexidine (CHG) in alcohol products
Date of Request:	13 December 2024

Requested:

I would like to request some information on the usage of Chlorhexidine in Alcohol specifically within the theatre departments across the Health Board.

1. Would it be possible to provide me with a list of current Chlorhexidine in Alcohol products used specifically within Main Theatres and Day Surgery across the Health Board as a preoperative skin disinfection prior to invasive / surgical procedure.
2. Which percentage of Chlorhexidine in Alcohol is most frequently used throughout the Health Board in the Anaesthetic Rooms a 0.5% CHG or 2% CHG.
3. Are the Chlorhexidine in Alcohol products the Health Board currently use prior to invasive / surgical procedures classified as Licensed Medicinal Products or Biocides.
4. If using a BIOCIDES which is **not licensed** as a preoperative skin disinfectant on a patient prior to an invasive / surgical procedure are patients notified and do you seek consent from each patient prior to the use of a **non-licensed** product.

Response:

1. Hywel Dda University Health Board (UHB) confirms that it uses BD Chloroprep 2% in 70% alcohol, within its Theatres and Day Surgery departments, as a pre-operative skin disinfection.
2. The UHB confirms that both 0.5% and 2% Chlorhexidine (CHG) are used in its Anaesthetic departments.
3. The UHB confirms that the products used containing CHG are licensed medicinal products.
4. Not applicable, as the UHB does not use non-licensed pre-operative skin disinfectant products.