

<b>Nursing Policy Manual</b> Incontinence Care		<b>SUBJECT:</b> Patient Personal Hygiene <b>POLICY NUMBER:</b> <b>PAGE:</b> 1 of 1	
<b>APPROVED BY:</b>		<b>GENERATED BY:</b>	
<b>APPROVED BY:</b>		<b>APPROVED BY:</b>	
<b>ISSUED:</b>	<b>REVISED:</b>	<b>REVIEWED:</b>	<b>REFERENCE:</b>

Standard of Care: #7403 Comfort Shield® Incontinence Care Washcloths (DIN 02245871), Single Use Pack (3 large washcloths/pkg.)

**POLICY STATEMENT:**

Comfort Shield Incontinence Care Washcloths from Sage Products, Inc. will be used on patients who are incontinent of bowel and/or bladder after each incontinent episode. Comfort Shield Washcloths are to be used for incontinence care only, as part of a total patient cleansing program such as Comfort Personal Cleansing®.

Comfort Shield Washcloths will not be used if the patient declines, has any known sensitivity to any ingredients, exhibits sensitivity to the product, or any other contraindication. Qualified nursing personnel and/or physician(s) have the responsibility to determine if Comfort Shield Washcloths are appropriate to be administered for its stated use to the patient.

**Purpose:**

To help protect skin from minor irritation associated with incontinence, cleanse, moisturize, deodorize and provide a protective barrier that seals out wetness.

**Equipment Needed:**

1. #7403 Comfort Shield Incontinence Care Washcloths Single Use Pack (for individual patient use only)
2. Comfort Personal Cleansing® Microwave or Warmer.

**Procedure:**

Comfort Shield Incontinence Care Washcloths may be used at room temperature. If warming is desired for additional patient comfort, use a Comfort Personal Cleansing Microwave or Warmer.

- a) Warming in Microwave: familiarize yourself with all indications, warnings and information displayed on Comfort Shield package.
  1. Follow Microwave Manual regarding installation.
  2. Before placing Comfort Shield Single Pack into Microwave, locate “**TEAR HERE**” print at top of package and tear open to vent.
  3. Warm no longer than 18 seconds
- b) Warming in Warmer: familiarize yourself with all indications, warnings and information displayed on Comfort Shield package.
  1. Follow Warmer instructions to install and stock Warmer.
  2. Place packages inside the warmer. Within 2 hours “Ready” indicators will light up. These products are ready for use. If green “Take First” indicators are flashing, use those packages first.
- c) Cleansing the skin
  1. Tell the patient what you are going to do and continue communication throughout the procedure.
  2. Remove wet or soiled undergarment.
  3. If needed, gently remove large amounts of fecal material with toilet tissue, Chux, wipes, etc.
  4. Remove Comfort Shield washcloth from package and, if warmed, check the temperature before applying to skin. If there is any indication the washcloth is excessively hot, do not use. Remember gloves diminish sensitivity to heat. Closely monitor heat levels with infants, unresponsive or skin sensitive individuals.
  5. Cleanse perineal area with Comfort Shield washcloth. Use as many cloths necessary to remove urine and/or feces from the skin. Discard each washcloth after use, following appropriate policies for such soiled items. **DO NOT FLUSH WASHCLOTHS DOWN THE TOILET.**
  6. Place clean, dry undergarment on patient. Change soiled or wet bedding if needed.
  7. Repeat cleansing procedure after each episode of urinary and/or fecal incontinence.

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*The information contained herein refers specifically to the cleansing of the perineal/sacral area of incontinent individuals with Comfort Shield washcloths. Additional interventions, rationales and steps should be added pursuant to your facility’s final plan of care, following standard nursing practice, other approved internal policies and procedures, and universal precautions.*