

INFECTION CONTROL

The logo consists of the lowercase letters 'i' and 'c' in a bold, serif font. The 'i' is positioned to the left of the 'c', and they are both rendered in a dark, solid color.

EDITORIAL

Focus on Vial Sterility

Mark Eggleston, PharmD

ORIGINAL ARTICLES

Multidose Medication Vial Sterility:

An In-Use Study and a Review of the Literature

Robert Longfield, CDR MC USN; Jenice Longfield, MD, MPH; L. Patrick Smith, MA; K. Craig Hyams, LT MC USNR; M. Elena Strohmer, RN

A Potential Infection Hazard with the Use of Disposable Saline Vials

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A Prevalence Survey of Infections in a Combined Acute and Long-Term Care Hospital

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Readers' Forum: AIDS—Safety Practices for Clinical and Research Laboratories

John V. Federico, MD; Robyn R.M. Gershon, MT (ASCP), MHS

Clinical Pharmacology of Antibiotics: The Pharmacology of Aminoglycosides—I. Considered as a Group

Sandra M. Norris, PharmD; Jonathan I. Ravdin, MD

Infection Control and Employee Health: Comments on the CDC Guideline for Employee Health

William M. Valenti, MD

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pHisoHex may be used to control an outbreak of gram-positive infection where other infection control procedures have been unsuccessful. Use only as long as necessary for infection control. Infants, especially premature infants or those with dermatoses, are particularly susceptible to hexachlorophene absorption.

**See following page for important product prescribing information including warnings, precautions, adverse reactions, and patient selection.*

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Before prescribing, please consult the following product information:

CLINICAL PHARMACOLOGY: pHisoHex is a bacteriostatic cleansing agent. It cleanses the skin thoroughly and has bacteriostatic action against staphylococci and other gram-positive bacteria. Cumulative antibacterial action develops with repeated use. This antibacterial residue is resistant to removal by many solvents, soaps, and detergents for several days.

pHisoHex has the same slight acidity as normal skin (pH value 5.0 to 6.0).

INDICATIONS AND USAGE: pHisoHex is indicated for use as a surgical scrub and bacteriostatic skin cleanser. It may also be used to control an outbreak of gram-positive infection where other infection control procedures have been unsuccessful. Use only as long as necessary for infection control.

CONTRAINDICATIONS: pHisoHex should not be used on burned or denuded skin.

It should not be used as an occlusive dressing, wet pack, or lotion.

It should not be used routinely for prophylactic total body bathing.

It should not be used as a vaginal pack or tampon, or on any mucous membranes.

pHisoHex should not be used on persons with sensitivity to any of its components. It should not be used on persons who have demonstrated primary light sensitivity to halogenated phenol derivatives because of the possibility of cross-sensitivity to hexachlorophene.

WARNINGS: RINSE THOROUGHLY AFTER USE, especially from sensitive areas such as the scrotum and perineum.

Rapid absorption of hexachlorophene may occur with resultant toxic blood levels when preparations containing hexachlorophene are applied to skin lesions such as ichthyosis congenita, the dermatitis of Letterer-Siwe's syndrome, or other generalized dermatological conditions. Application to burns has also produced neurotoxicity and death.

PHISOHEX SHOULD BE DISCONTINUED PROMPTLY IF SIGNS OR SYMPTOMS OF CEREBRAL IRRITABILITY OCCUR.

Infants, especially premature infants or those with dermatoses, are particularly susceptible to hexachlorophene absorption. Systemic toxicity may be manifested by signs of stimulation (irritation) of the central nervous system, sometimes with convulsions.

Infants have developed dermatitis, irritability, generalized clonic muscular contractions and decerebrate rigidity following application of a 6 percent hexachlorophene powder.

Examination of brainstems of those infants revealed vacuolization like that which can be produced in newborn experimental animals following repeated topical application of 3 percent hexachlorophene. Moreover, a study of histologic sections of premature infants who died of unrelated causes has shown a positive correlation between hexachlorophene baths and lesions in white matter of brains.

pHisoHex is intended for external use only. If swallowed, pHisoHex is harmful, especially to infants and children. **pHisoHex should not be poured into measuring cups, medicine bottles, or similar containers since it may be mistaken for baby formula or other medications.**

PRECAUTION: pHisoHex suds that get into the eyes accidentally during washing should be rinsed out promptly and thoroughly with water.

ADVERSE REACTIONS: Adverse reactions to pHisoHex may include dermatitis and photosensitivity. Sensitivity to hexachlorophene is rare; however, persons who have developed photoallergy to similar compounds also may become sensitive to hexachlorophene.

In persons with highly sensitive skin, the use of pHisoHex may at times produce a reaction characterized by redness and/or mild scaling or dryness, especially when it is combined with such mechanical factors as excessive rubbing or exposure to heat or cold.

TREATMENT OF ACCIDENTAL INGESTION: The accidental ingestion of pHisoHex in amounts from 1 to 4 oz has caused anorexia, vomiting, abdominal cramps, diarrhea, dehydration, convulsions, hypotension and shock, and in several reported instances, fatalities.

If patients are seen early, the stomach should be evacuated by emesis or gastric lavage. Olive oil or vegetable oil (60 mL or 2 fl oz) may then be given to delay absorption of hexachlorophene, followed by a saline cathartic to hasten removal.

Treatment is symptomatic and supportive; intravenous fluids (5 percent dextrose in physiologic saline solution) may be given for dehydration. Any other electrolyte derangement should be corrected. If marked hypotension occurs, vasopressor therapy is indicated. Use of opiates may be considered if gastrointestinal symptoms (cramping, diarrhea) are severe. Scheduled medical or surgical procedures should be postponed until the patient's condition has been evaluated and stabilized.

HOW SUPPLIED: 5 oz plastic squeeze bottles (NDC 0024-1535-02); 1 pint plastic squeeze bottles (NDC 0024-1535-06); 1 gallon plastic bottles (NDC 0024-1536-08); ¼ oz (8 mL) unit packets, boxes of 50 (NDC 0024-1535-05).

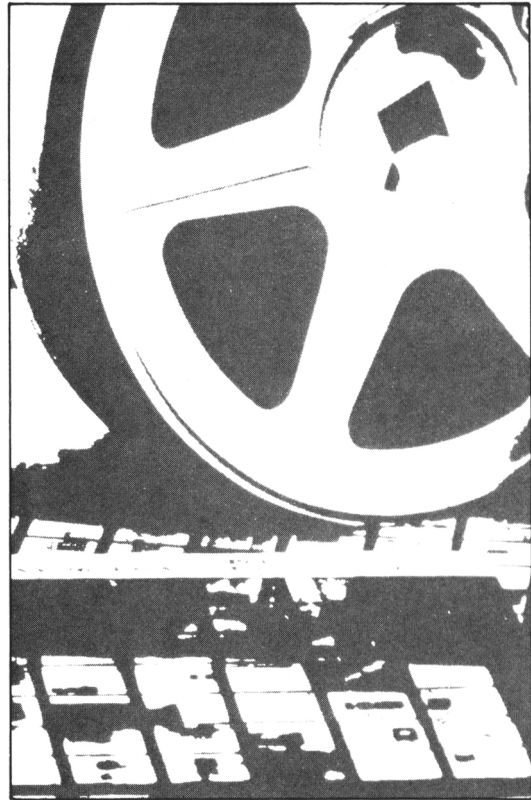
pHisoHex should not be dispensed from, or stored in, containers with ordinary metal parts. A special type of stainless steel must be used or undesirable discoloration of the product or oxidation of metal may occur. Specially designed dispensers for hospital or office use may be obtained through your local dealer.

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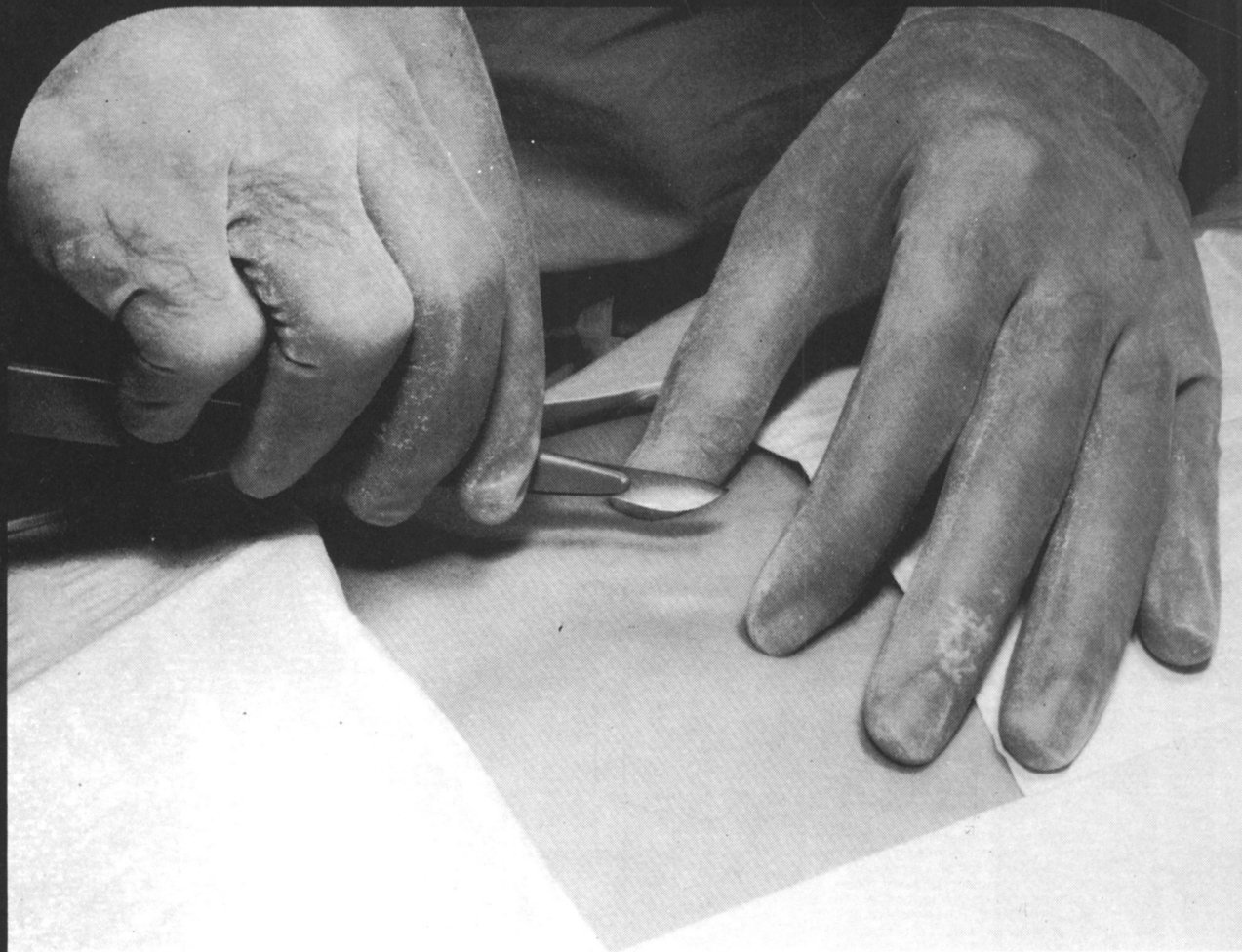
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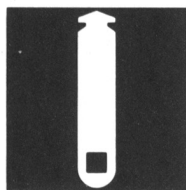


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