1. **What HIBISCRUB® is and what it is used for**

HIBISCRUB® belongs to a group of medicines called antiseptics. This means that it helps to prevent infections by killing germs on the skin.

HIBISCRUB® cutaneous solution contains the active ingredient chlorhexidine gluconate 4% w/v (40mg/ml) as chlorhexidine digluconate solution, which has antimicrobial properties.

HIBISCRUB® is used to disinfect the hands and skin prior to or after an operation or clean procedure (pre- and post-operative hand and skin disinfection / antisepsis).

HIBISCRUB® is also used to disinfect hands after handling infected materials (antiseptic handwashing).

2. **What you need to know before you use HIBISCRUB®**

**Do not use HIBISCRUB®**

- if you are allergic (hypersensitive) to chlorhexidine gluconate or any of the other ingredients of this medicine (listed in section 6).

**Warnings and precautions**

Talk to your doctor, pharmacist or nurse before using HIBISCRUB®.

- Avoid contact with the eyes, brain, meninges (the membranes surrounding the brain and spinal cord) and middle ear. If HIBISCRUB® comes into contact with the eyes, wash out immediately and thoroughly with water.
- In patients with head or spinal injuries or a perforated ear drum (an ear drum with a hole or tear in it), the benefit of use in pre-operative preparation should be evaluated against the risk of contact.
- Common bleaches (which contain hypochlorites) may cause brown stains to develop on fabrics which have previously been in contact with chlorhexidine.
- HIBISCRUB®’s action may be reduced if used with soap or detergents.
- If you go into hospital, let your doctor know if you are using HIBISCRUB®.
How to use HIBISCRUB®

Always use this medicine exactly as described in this leaflet or as your doctor, pharmacist or nurse have told you. Check with your doctor, pharmacist or nurse if you are not sure.

FOR EXTERNAL USE ONLY

Do not inject. Do not use in the body’s internal spaces.

For Pre-operative Surgical Hand Disinfection
Wet the hands and forearms. Wash with 5ml of HIBISCRUB® using the following procedure, each step consisting of five strokes backwards and forwards.

1. Palm to palm.
2. Right palm over left dorsum and left palm over right dorsum.
3. Palm to palm fingers interlaced.
4. Back of fingers to opposing palms with fingers interlocked.
5. Rotational rubbing of right thumb clasping in left palm and vice versa.
6. Rotational rubbing backwards and forwards of tips of fingers and thumb of right hand in left palm and vice versa.

Continue washing hands and wrists until one minute has elapsed. Clean the fingernails with a brush or scraper. Rinse thoroughly. For pre-operative use repeat the wash a second time for two minutes.

The HIBISCRUB® handwashing technique is based on a procedure described by Ayliffe GAJ et al. J Clin Path 1978; 31: 923.

For Antiseptic Handwashing on the Ward
Wet the hands and forearms, apply 5ml of HIBISCRUB® and wash for 2 minutes. Rinse thoroughly and dry.

For Preventing Infection Before Your Operation
Wash the whole of your body in the bath or the shower on at least two occasions. This is usually done on the day before the operation and the day of the operation. Use the following method:
- Use 25ml of HIBISCRUB® as a soap solution.
- Wash the whole body. Start with the face. Work down the body. Pay special attention to the skin around the nose, under the arms, around the belly button, between the legs and around the bottom.
- Rinse the whole body.
- Repeat the wash. Use the same amount of HIBISCRUB®. This time, wash the hair as well.
- Rinse the whole body and dry thoroughly with a clean towel.

For Preventing Infection After Your Operation
Wash the whole of your body, excluding the operation site, in the bath or the shower. This is usually done on the third day after the operation. Use the method described above.

**If you accidentally swallow any HIBISCRUB®:**
- You should go to your nearest Accident and Emergency department or contact your doctor immediately. Take this leaflet and any other packaging with you so they know what you have taken.

If you have any further questions on the use of this medicine, ask your doctor, pharmacist or nurse.

### 4. Possible side effects

Like all medicines, this medicine can cause side effects, although not everybody gets them.

The following side effects may occur; it is not known how often they occur but available data suggests these are very rare (probably affect fewer than 1 in every 10,000 people).

- Serious allergic reactions which can cause breathing difficulties, weakness, collapse and death, and can sometimes be preceded by swelling (in particular lip/tongue and facial swelling), or rash.

Allergic reactions to chlorhexidine-impregnated patches have been reported rarely when used in newborn babies.

At the first sign of any of these reactions, tell your doctor, pharmacist or nurse and application of HIBISCRUB® should be stopped immediately.

Other possible side effects, for which it is not known how often they occur, are: allergic skin disorders such as dermatitis (inflammation of the skin), pruritus (itch), erythema (redness of the skin), eczema, rash, urticaria (hives), skin irritation and blisters.

If you get any side effects, talk to your doctor, pharmacist, or nurse. This includes any side effects not listed in this leaflet.

### 5. How to store HIBISCRUB®

Keep this medicine out of the sight and reach of children.

Do not use this medicine after the expiry date which is printed on the bottle after “EXP:”. The expiry date refers to the last day of that month.

Do not store your HIBISCRUB® above 25°C.

Store in the original package.

Do not throw away any medicines via wastewater or household waste. Ask your pharmacist how to throw away medicines you no longer use. These measures will help protect the environment.

### 6. Contents of the pack and other information

**What HIBISCRUB® contains**
- The active substance is chlorhexidine gluconate 4% w/v (40mg/ml), incorporated as chlorhexidine digluconate solution.
- The other ingredients are: d-Gluconolactone, Isopropyl alcohol, Lauryl dimethyl amine oxide, Herbacol (perfume), Poloxamer 237, Glycerol, Macrogol-7 glycerol cocoate, Ponceau 4R (E124), Purified water and Sodium hydroxide.

**What HIBISCRUB® looks like and contents of the pack**
HIBISCRUB® is a clear, red, slightly viscous solution and comes in white bottles containing 500ml or 5 litres of liquid.

**Marketing Authorisation Holder:**
Regent Medical Overseas Limited, Two Omega Drive, River Bend Technology Park, Irlam, Manchester, M44 5BJ.

**Manufacturer:**
BCM Ltd., 1 Thane Road West, Nottingham, NG2 3AA, UK.

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