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PREVENTING SURGICAL SITE INFECTIONS

- **Surgical site infections** (also known as **post-operative infections**) are a known risk of all surgical procedures including arthroscopic surgery. The recommendations below may lower the potential risk of these infections occurring following your surgical procedure.

- **Preoperative skin care:**
 - **Shaving** operative extremity before surgery **may increase** the risk of bacterial contamination and surgical site infections due to skin compromise. Avoid shaving the operative extremity prior to surgery. Surgical clippers will be used to safely remove hair as needed on the day of surgery.

 - Pre-surgical skin sterilization using the provided **chlorhexidine wipes** may help lower the normal bacterial count on your skin prior to surgery. Start using the wipes **two days** prior to your surgery. Each package contains two wipes. One wipe should be used in the morning and one wipe should be used in the evening from each package. Use on the **entire operative extremity** after normal washing each of the two days prior to surgery.