**INSTRUCTIONS FOR BATHING/SHOWERING:**

- Shower or bathe your child with the liquid soap two days prior to surgery, and the evening before surgery.
- The area where the surgery will be performed should not be shaved.
- Start each shower or bath by washing the hair with the child’s normal shampoo.
- Rinse the hair and body thoroughly after washing the hair to remove the soap residue. Do not use conditioner or other leave-in styling agents.
- Apply the liquid soap to a clean, wet washcloth and lather the entire body, including face and neck. Avoid getting soap in the eyes or mouth as irritation may occur.
- Wash thoroughly but gently for five minutes, paying special attention to the area where the surgery will be performed.
- Turn water off while lathering to prevent rinsing the soap off too soon.
- Do not wash with regular soap after the liquid soap is used.
- Turn the water back on and rinse the body thoroughly.
- Pat the skin dry with a clean, soft towel.
- Do not use lotion, cream, powder or perfume after bathing.
- Dress in clean clothes following the bath/shower.

Please report any rashes, infections, open areas or sores on your child’s skin to their surgeon before the scheduled surgery date for any further instructions.

**IMPORTANT:** Your child will need to bathe with liquid soap. The soap needs to be in liquid form to prevent cross contamination that occurs with bar soap. Younger children should be bathed by a parent or guardian; older children should be supervised to make sure that washing is done effectively. All large pharmacies and most grocery stores have liquid soap. The brand of soap does not matter.

**WHICH PARTS OF THE BODY DOES MY CHILD NEED TO WASH?**

- **Hair:** especially if your child is having head or face surgery
- **Neck and behind the ears:** your child may need to have intravenous (IV) in the neck area
- **Armpits:** this is a moist dark area where germs can thrive
- **Elbow crease:** this is a common place for an IV
- **Hand and foot:** these are common places for an IV
- **Chest and belly area:** especially if this is the area where the surgeon will operate (make sure to clean belly button)
- **Groin and diaper area:** your child may need a urinary catheter

Your child should wash every part of their body thoroughly.

The diagram shows the areas to concentrate on particularly and the reasons why: