

## Umbilical cord care



- DOs**
- ✓ **Stage 1:** Sponge the baby & apply chlorhexidine cream once a day
  - ✓ **Stage 2 +3:** Baby can be immersed in water & cord air dried, no need for chlorhexidine
  - ✓ **Stage 4+ 5:** Routine care
  - ✓ Keep the diaper folded below the cord
  - ✓ Let the cord fall off on its own; **DO NOT** pull the cord
  - ✓ If **cord granuloma** develops apply a pinch of salt twice daily for 2-3 days; should dry out & heal

**Consultant review:**

- Fever > 38°C
- Any discharge/ bleeding/ foul smell/ gross abnormality/ swelling
- Mother's concern
- Persistent cord granuloma or stump >3 weeks