

## **GENTLE SKIN CARE**

Too much bathing, hot water and soap will remove the natural oils from your skin and make itchy skin rashes worse. Therefore, we recommend the following:

## **Bathing**

- Take only one bath or shower a day
- Use lukewarm water
- Never use a wash cloth
- Do not use any soap or cleanser except in the armpits, groin and feet; it is important to rinse these areas thoroughly to remove all traces of soap
- If you take a bath, do not add anything to the water unless advised by your doctor. Also, shampoo your hair at the end of the bath so you are not sitting in soapy water.

## **After Bathing**

- Wrap yourself in a towel or pat your skin softly with a towel; do not rub dry
- While your skin is damp, apply any medicine creams or ointments to the rash areas as prescribed by your doctor
- Then, while your skin is still damp, apply a moisturizer to the rest of your body. Your doctor will recommend several acceptable moisturizers that you can get at the store, such as:

## **Additional Suggestions**

- Avoid hot tubs and Jacuzzi's! The hot, chlorinated water will strip every bit of natural protective oils from your skin
- Avoid wool or synthetic clothing if the fabric irritates your skin
- Use a hypoallergenic laundry detergent, such as Tide-Free, Cheer-Free, Ivory Snow or Dreft
- Do not use fabric softeners