Can an infant be bathed with the umbilical cord still intact?

AWHONN (The Association of Women’s Health, Obstetric and Neonatal Nurses) 2018 Skin Care Guideline states that infants should ideally be bathed with immersion or swaddled immersion bathing between 6 and 24 hours of age.

Research shows that no difference exists in cord healing, bacterial colonization of the cord, cord infection or frequency of diaper dermatitis among infants who were immersion bathed versus those who were sponge bathed.

References: