

Dos & Don'ts *for wearing* GLOVES

Types Of Gloves And Their Uses

STERILE GLOVES: Are used when performing any procedure where the hands of the healthcare worker may have contact with a key site (tissue would normally be sterile) or key part (sterile instrument or invasive device) e.g. surgical procedures, central line insertion and dressings, complex dressings, tracheostomy suction, catheterisation.



NON-STERILE GLOVES: (*nitrile*) Are use when there is a potential for contact with blood or body substances e.g. inserting an IV, emptying a drainage bag, incontinence management, oral suction, basic wound care or procedures where key sites and key parts do not need to be touched.



NON-MEDICAL GLOVES: (*vinyl or nitrile*) Are usually blue and are used for food handling e.g. preparing and cooking food.



DO

DON'T

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| ✓ DO wear gloves to reduce the risk of exposure to blood, other body fluids or hazardous materials | ✗ DON'T substitute glove use for hand hygiene |
| ✓ DO clean your hands before putting on gloves | ✗ DON'T re-use gloves |
| ✓ DO put gloves on immediately before starting a procedure or potential contact with body substance | ✗ DON'T "clean" gloves as a substitute for hand hygiene |
| ✓ DO make sure gloves fit you properly before performing any task | ✗ DON'T wear the same gloves between hand hygiene moments |
| ✓ DO change gloves and clean hands between each task i.e. before and after a hand hygiene moment, after contact with a contaminated surface or environment | ✗ DON'T forget to remove and dispose of gloves correctly and clean your hands |
| ✓ DO clean your hands immediately after removing gloves | ✗ DON'T use gloves if they are damaged or visibly soiled. |
| ✓ DO ensure you use gloves only for the task they are required for, and wear gloves for the minimum amount of time possible. This will help to avoid you developing skin sensitivity or allergy issues | ✗ DON'T touch your face when wearing gloves |
| | ✗ DON'T wear gloves for administrative duties, e.g. using WOWs, in staff stations |

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