



Do

- ✓ Use gloves only if needed
- ✓ Use correct size gloves that fit properly
- ✓ Clean Hands before wearing gloves
- ✓ Ensure hands are dry prior to donning gloves
- ✓ Clean Hands after taking the gloves off
- ✓ Change or remove gloves in the following situations: during patient care if moving from a contaminated body site to another body site

Do not

- ✗ Reuse gloves
- ✗ Double glove
- ✗ Use gloves once damaged or punctured
- ✗ Touch your face when wearing gloves
- ✗ Overuse gloves, this can result in dermatitis or skin irritation
- ✗ Use alcohol gel on gloves or wash gloves

How can I contact a member of the Infection Prevention & Control Team?



You can contact the IPC Team through the link on the Intranet homepage. Or you can email Infectioncontrolnurse@tuh.ie

Call the IPC Nurse on Ext: 3938

Or you can contact the IPC Nurse for each level of the Hospital on:
IPC Nurses Bleep List per Level I

Level 1 – 2210

Level 2 – 2211

Level 3 – 2609

Level 4 - 2209

We have made every possible effort to make sure that all the information provided in this leaflet is true, accurate, complete and up to date at the time of publication

References |

[https://www.who.int/publications/m/item/glove-use-information-leaflet-](https://www.who.int/publications/m/item/glove-use-information-leaflet)



Tallaght
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PATIENT
INFORMATION
LEAFLET

Be Glove Aware



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Medical Gloves

Medical gloves are defined as disposable gloves which are used during medical procedures. It is important that you know the correct gloves to wear, when to wear them or not as the case maybe.

The different types of Medical gloves include:

- Examination Gloves
- Surgical Gloves



The three primary materials from which glove is made include:

- Natural Rubber Latex (NRL)
- Nitrile (Acrylonitrile-Butadiene)
- PVC (Poly-Vinyl Chloride)

To decide if gloves are required ask the following questions:

- What task are you performing?
- If there is any risk of contact with blood / body fluids, non-intact skin or mucous membranes – **wear gloves**
- Any risk of contact with disinfectants, chemicals or cytotoxic drugs – **wear gloves**

Always risk assess the need for Gloves

Hand Hygiene and Glove use

- Do your Hand Hygiene before putting on the gloves
- Perform Hand Hygiene after removing the gloves. Gloves do not provide complete protection against hand contamination
- If Hand Hygiene is indicated between tasks remove the gloves and clean your hands before the next task

Gloves On?

- When in contact with blood / body fluids, non-intact skin or mucous membranes.
- When in contact with hazardous agents such as chemicals, disinfectants or cytotoxic drugs.



Gloves Off?

- As soon as gloves are suspected to be damaged
- When it is necessary to do Hand Hygiene
- When a single aspect of patient care has ended
- When you are no longer in contact with blood / body fluids or non-intact skin
- When contact with hazardous agents has ended



Inappropriate use of gloves can result in:

- Missed opportunity for Hand Hygiene
- Waste of resources
- Transmission of infectious agents from one person to another
- Harmful to the environment as some of the materials are not environmentally friendly

Skin Irritation

Skin irritation due to glove use can be due to:

- Wearing gloves for a long time
- Reaction to chemicals in the glove material

If you have skin problems related to glove use, please contact the Occupational Health Department.

Gloves are not a substitute for Hand Hygiene

