

Glove Recommendation by Job Role

Compiled July 16, 2020

Helpful glove tips:

- Vinyl food grade gloves should only be used when not exposed to pathogens. (FDA, 2020)
- Chemical resistance ratings for Nitrile and Latex gloves are very similar, with the exception of Nitrile gloves having a better resistance rating from Cyclehexanol, Oleic Acid, and Xylene. (McKesson, 2020)
- When pharmacy is performing sterile compounding, sterile gloves with long cuffs must be worn, so there is an overlap of the glove cuff and gown sleeve. (Douglass, K., 2017)
- Chemotherapy gloves must be worn when handling hazardous drugs—including the technician who unpacks the supplier tote. (Continuing Education for Pharmacists & Pharmacy Technicians), (USP-NF, 2017)
- Medical glove operational integrity can last past shelf life (OSHA)
 - o Medical glove shelf life depends on the type of glove and storage conditions
 - o Gloves should be inspected before each use to ensure that they are not made ineffective in any way. Any gloves with impaired protective ability should be discarded
 - Barrier property tests: A visual inspection will help detect cuts or tears but a more thorough inspection by filling the gloves with water and tightly rolling the cuff towards the fingers will help reveal any pinhole leaks
 - o Gloves that are discolored or stiff may also indicate deficiencies
 - Sterile gloves with packaging that has been compromised should not be used.

More information on standard glove specification can be found on ASTM International's website: https://www.astm.org/READINGLIBRARY/VIEW/PHMSA.html

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Glove recommendations during COVID-19 under (1) Normal operations, (2) Contingency/conservation and (3) Crisis, are listed below.

Glove Recommendations by Job Role							
Job Role	Job Role Details	Glove type					
		Nitrile	Nitrile Long	Vinyl Medical Grade	Vinyl Food Grade*	Latex	Polyethylene
Chemo (USP 800) Nursing, Pharmacy	Nursing, Pharmacy	X (1,2)	X (1,2)			X (3)	
Pharmacy (USP 797)		X (1)		X (2)		X (3)	
Patient Care	Nursing, Pt Care Tech, Lab, Phlebotomy, MRI, Radiology, PT Transport, Security	X (1,2)				X (3)	
Medication Administration	All medications to include chemotherapy and hazardous drugs	X (1,2,3)					
Sterile Processing (SPD)			X (1,2)			Reusable Gloves (3)	
Environmental Services (EVS)	Acute Care Facility	X (1)		X (2)		Reusable Gloves (3)	
Environmental Services (EVS)	Medical Office Building (MOB)	X (1)		X (2)	X (3)	Reusable Gloves (3)	
Registration, Security, Greeter, Valet		X (1)		X (2)	X (3)		X (3)
Food and Nutrition (FANS)					X (1,2,3)		

^{*} Vinyl food grade gloves are OK when not exposed to pathogens

Key:

- 1-Normal Operations
- 2-Contingency/Conservation
- 3-Crisis

Source:

A HealthTrust member hospital worked with its internal SMEs (infection prevention specialists, EVS leads and pharmacists) to create a reference document for glove use. That document was the foundational basis for this chart.

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