



# Glove Use Procedure

Procedure Number

CHC-IC-0013

Version Nos:

6

## 1. Purpose

This Procedure outlines the process for the use of gloves by West Coast District Health Board (WCDHB) staff members as a means of providing protection to both staff members and patients.

## 2. Application

This Procedure is to be followed by all clinical staff throughout West Coast District Health Board (WCDHB).

## 3. Definitions

There are no definitions associated with this Procedure.

## 4. Responsibilities

For the purposes of this Procedure:

**Clinical Nurse Specialist - Infection Control** is required to:

- oversee all aspects of this Procedure
- monitor the performance of WCDHB staff members in relation to this Procedure;

**Staff Members** are required to:

- ensure they abide by the requirements of this Procedure;
- abide by all WCDHB Infection Control Policy and Procedures;
- abide by all WCDHB Health and Safety Policy and Procedure.

## 5. Resources Required

This Procedure requires:

- Disposable gloves
- Hand cream
- Alcohol Hand gel
- Hand cleanser (soap) and running water

## 6. Process

- 1.00 Use Disposable gloves when there is potential exposure to blood, body fluids, excretion or secretions (this forms part of the Standard Precaution).
  - 1.01 Change gloves between patients, between tasks and procedure on the same patient, and when they become soiled.
  - 1.02 Remove gloves promptly after touching contaminated items and environmental surfaces and before moving to another patient.
  - 1.03 Remove gloves before leaving the patients bedside and decontaminate hands immediately.
  - 1.04 After glove removal and hand washing, ensure that hands do not touch potentially contaminated environmental surfaces or items in the patient's room.



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- 1.05 Discard gloves after attending to each patient.
- 1.06 The use of disposable gloves and adhesive water resistant dressings is required for staff with broken skin areas, dermatitis, abrasions or cuts.
- 1.07 It is essential that the skin of staff members remains healthy and intact. When gloves are worn correctly, they provide an extra layer of safety for patients and health care workers.
- 1.08 Disposable gloves must not be washed and reused as this compromises glove integrity. gloves do not prevent a puncture by a sharp item, staff members are to keep their fingernails short, jewellery is to be removed before use, and change gloves if a defect is noted.
- 1.09 Gloves have the potential for harbouring organisms and causing cross infection if worn for more than one patient/procedure, or if non-disposable gloves are worn by one or more staff member.
- 1.10 For added protection, a recommended hand cream should be applied to the wearer's hands (*See WCDHB Handwashing Procedure*).
- 1.11 Staff should wash and dry hands thoroughly before gloving to reduce resident organisms which multiply in warm, moist environments. (*See WCDHB Handwashing Procedure*)
- 1.12 Staff should wash hands after removing gloves, as gloves may be damaged during use or may be perforated before use. Gloves also encourage the growth of micro-organisms on hands by creating a warm, moist environment.
- 1.13 Staff with suspected allergies to gloves or glove components are recommended to have an allergy test to determine the cause of the irritation. Powderless and latex free gloves are available for all staff to use. (*See WCDHB Latex Procedure*)

## 7. Precautions and Considerations

- ➔ Use disposable gloves when there is a potential exposure to blood, body fluid, excretions or secretions
- ➔ The use of disposable gloves and adhesive water resistant dressings is required for staff with broken skin areas.
- ➔ Staff are to change gloves between patients, between tasks and procedures on the same patient and when they become soiled.
- ➔ Discard gloves after attending to each patient
- ➔ Hand hygiene with alcohol gel or soap and water must be performed after removing gloves

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## 8. References

New Zealand Standard – Infection Control NZS 8142:2008

## 9. Related Documents

WCDHB Infection Control Procedure Manual 2011

Practical Guidelines for Infection Control in Health Care Facilities. World Health Organisation, 2004

<b>Revision History</b>	<b>Version:</b>	6
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