



Types of GLOVES



Gloves are worn as part of routine practices and a Point of Care Risk Assessment (PCRA) when it is anticipated that a procedure or care activity is likely to result in contact with blood, body fluids, secretions, excretions, chemicals or chemotherapeutic agents.

When performing any task relating to the use of chemicals, Health care Workforce should refer to safety data sheets (SDS) to select gloves that are appropriate for the exposures related to that task.

GLOVE TYPE	USE	ADVANTAGES	DISADVANTAGES
LATEX	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Activities that require sterility Heavy exposure to blood/body fluids/infectious agents Contact with weak acids and bases, alcohols 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Good barrier qualities Strong and durable Has re-seal qualities Good comfort and fit Good protection from most caustic detergents 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Not recommended for contact with oils, greases and organics Not recommended for those with or those in the vicinity of those who have allergic reactions or sensitivity to latex
VINYL	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Minimal exposure to blood/body fluids/infectious agents Contact with strong acids and bases, salts and alcohols Short duration tasks Protection for staff with documented skin breakdown 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Good level of protection but based on quality of manufacturer Medium chemical resistance 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Not recommended for contact with solvents, aldehydes, ketones Quality varies with manufacturers. Punctures easily when stressed Rigid, non elastic
NITRILE	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Heavy exposure to blood/body fluids/infectious agents Tasks of longer duration Tasks with high stress on glove Tasks requiring additional dexterity Chemicals or chemotherapeutic agents Recommended for contact with oils, greases, acids, bases Preferred replacement for vinyl gloves when a documented allergy or sensitivity occurs 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Offers good dexterity Strong and durable Puncture resistant Good comfort and fit Excellent resistance to chemicals 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Not recommended for contact with solvents, ketones, esters