

Proper Glove Use as Part of Personal Protective Equipment

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- ❖ Wearing gloves does not replace the need to perform proper hand hygiene.
- ❖ Hand hygiene must be performed before and after wearing gloves.

Why wear gloves?

- Reduce soiling of workers' hands with blood or body fluids.
- Reduce the risk of spreading germs to residents, the environment, or workers.

When should I wear gloves?

- Before contact or potential contact with blood, body fluids, mucous membranes, or non-intact skin.
- Before contact with equipment or environment soiled with blood or body fluids.

When should I NOT wear gloves?

When there is no expected contact with mucous membranes, non-intact skin and when there is no assessed risk (per PCRA) of exposure to blood or body fluids.

Examples include:

- Taking blood pressure, temperature, or pulse.
- Bathing, dressing or feeding the residents (unless there is contact with blood or body fluids).
- Phoning, charting, giving oral medications, replacing linens or assisting a resident to walk or reposition.



Important Points:

- Hand hygiene must be performed before taking gloves from their container.
- **Hand hygiene must be performed after glove removal since hands are considered contaminated even if gloves have been worn.**
 - Micro-tears can be present in gloves.
- **Change** gloves and perform hand hygiene between each resident.
- **Change** gloves and perform hand hygiene between procedures on the same resident.
- **Do not double glove for routine care.**
- Do not wash gloves or use alcohol-based hand rub on them.

