

## GUIDE

## Cotton Glove Liner Selection

This guide provides information on when and how to use cotton glove liners for individuals who have contact dermatitis. It is an excerpt from the [Recommendations for the Prevention, Detection and Management of Occupational Contact Dermatitis in Health Care Settings](#) and was reformatted for ease of use. For more information, please contact [ipac@oahpp.ca](mailto:ipac@oahpp.ca).

Gloves may be considered a hazard contributing to occupational contact dermatitis when allergies to glove components (e.g., natural rubber latex, rubber accelerators), long duration of use or existing skin conditions are present. Long-duration wearing of occlusive gloves may contribute to moisture in the glove (sweating), which can have a negative effect on skin barrier function<sup>104</sup> that could be improved with wearing cotton glove liners. Individuals with allergic contact dermatitis or irritant contact dermatitis may benefit from the use of cotton glove liners worn beneath the task glove (see [Figure 11](#)).

Single use (disposable) 100% cotton glove liners are commonly used in health care settings.

Reusable cotton glove liners are occasionally used, typically in an operative room setting. For cotton glove liners to be reused, they must be classified as reusable and be reprocessed according to manufacturer's instructions. Reusable cotton glove liners should be disposed of if damaged (e.g., excessive wear, tears, pilling)<sup>188</sup> or when the number of uses meets the manufacturer's indicated instructions for disposal.

Cotton glove liners do not replace other specialty glove liners, such as surgical glove liners or cut-resistant liners.

**Figure 11. Single Use Cotton Glove Liner (left) with Nitrile Glove (right)**



In addition, the following considerations are important to be aware of when selecting cotton glove liners:

- A variety of sizes are offered to meet the needs of the HCWs.
- Acceptability to users should be considered (e.g., comfort and ability to perform tasks).
- Glove liners should be changed when gloves are changed.
- Sterile cotton glove liners are used with sterile gloves for sterile procedures.<sup>189</sup>
- Single use cotton glove liners should never be reused; dispose after each use.<sup>189</sup>

## References

The following references follow the order of original document. For full reference list please refer to the [Recommendations for the Prevention, Detection and Management of Occupational Contact Dermatitis in Health Care Settings](#).

104. Tiedemann D, Clausen ML, John SM, Angelova-Fischer I, Kezic S, Agner T. Effect of glove occlusion on the skin barrier. *Contact Dermatitis*. 2016;74(1):2-10.

188. Copeland J. Gloves that last [Internet]. Dallas, TX: Occupational Health & Safety (OH&S); 2013 [cited 2018 Dec 3]. Available from: <https://ohsonline.com/Articles/2003/06/Gloves-That-Last.aspx>

189. Association of periOperative Registered Nurses. Guideline summary: hand hygiene. *AORN J*. 2017;105(2):213-7.

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