

GLOVING

The following information is provided as general recommendations. Always follow the glove use policies established by your facility.

General information

- Gloves are NOT a substitute for handwashing.
- Throw away single-use gloves after each use.
- Hands must be washed after removing gloves.
- Use non-latex gloves when touching people or food whenever possible.
- Gloves should fit well.
- Gloves should be durable, so they do not rip or tear during use.

Types and use of gloves

- **Medical gloves** (e.g., surgical gloves, examination gloves)
 - Used for exposure-related tasks where there is contact with blood and body fluids. For example, when handling blood (e.g., nosebleeds, cuts) or items, surfaces, or clothing soiled by blood or bloody body fluids.
 - Used when changing the diaper of a child with diarrhea or with an infection that is spread through stool, or if the child has open areas on the skin.
 - Worn by staff if they have open cuts, sores, or cracked skin.
 - Must be approved by the FDA. Plastic film food handling gloves are not considered to be appropriate for use for these activities.
- **Utility gloves**
 - Used for cleaning and disinfecting bathrooms, diapering areas, or any areas contaminated with stool, vomit, or urine.
- **Food handling gloves**
 - May be recommended for handling ready-to-eat foods in some jurisdictions. Check with Contra Costa Environmental Health at 925-692-2500.

Questions?

Contra Costa County
Communicable Disease Programs
(925) 313-6740
<http://cchealth.org/cd/>

