

ABI Resources LLC

PPE – Gloves Policy

PURPOSE

To provide guidelines for using gloves as Personal Protective Equipment to lessen or eliminate exposure to blood and Other Potentially Infectious Materials (OPIM).

POLICY

ABI Resources LLC is committed to protecting the health and safety of its employees, who are at risk for exposure to blood and Other Potentially Infectious Materials (OPIM), by requiring them to wear gloves in accordance with Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA) standards.

DEFINITIONS

1. Gloves

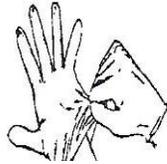
Gloves are fitted coverings for the hands, which have separate sheaths for each finger and the thumbs. They are usually made from latex, nitrile rubber or vinyl and are worn by health care workers as hygiene and contamination measures against blood or other potentially infectious materials.

PROCEDURES

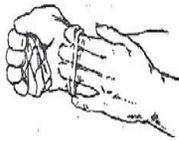
1. Employees shall be provided with gloves either before they get to the client's home or once they arrive at the client's home
2. Employees, who provide personal care to clients shall wear disposable gloves during the performance of, but not limited to, the following duties:
 - a. providing assistance with toileting;
 - b. providing assistance with incontinence pads, adult diapers, and child diapers;
 - c. providing bladder care;
 - d. providing bowel care;
 - e. bathing the rectal or groin area;
 - f. handling items dirtied with blood, body fluids, secretions and excretions;
 - g. handling dirtied dressings bedding, and clothing;
 - h. handling feminine hygiene products;
 - i. coming into contact with draining wounds, broken skin, secretions, excretions blood, body fluids, or mucous membranes;
 - j. cleaning up blood or body fluid spills;
 - k. cleaning/disinfecting areas exposed to blood, stool, urine or body fluids;
 - l. cleaning toilets, commodes, or soiled equipment;
 - m. having open skin lesions on their hands; and,
 - n. bagging materials soiled with blood or other potentially infectious materials.
3. Employees are not required to wear gloves when conducting routine client care providing they only conduct activities, which involve touching the client's skin e.g. assisting a client to walk.



4. Gloves shall be changed when:
 - a. they become soiled;
 - b. they are torn; and,
 - c. delivering service to a different client.
5. Gloves shall be provided to employees.
6. Employees, who have allergies to latex or vinyl gloves, are responsible for advising the supervisor/management of this sensitivity.
7. Supervisors/management shall be responsible for ensuring that employees with glove allergies are provided with hypo-allergenic gloves, gloves liners, un-powdered gloves or other suitable alternatives.
8. When removing disposable gloves, ensure that the hands do not come in contact with any blood or body fluids, which may be left on the gloves.
9. Procedures for removing gloves:
 - a. Grasp glove cuff with opposite gloved hand and peel off.



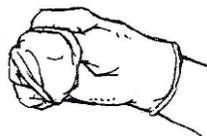
- b. Hold removed glove in gloved hand. Slide fingers of ungloved hand under remaining glove at wrist.



- c. Peel the glove from wrist to fingertips.



- d. Turn the glove inside out leaving the first glove inside the second.



- e. Discard gloves into waste receptacle.



10. Wash hands thoroughly with soap and water:
 - a. as soon as possible after removing gloves; and,
 - b. immediately after exposure to infectious material and before touching any non-contaminated objects and surfaces.
11. Used gloves, soiled pads, paper towels, rags, and hygiene products shall be placed directly into a garbage receptacle.
12. These soiled products shall be placed in a plastic garbage bag, which is subsequently closed tightly.
13. Place the garbage bag out to be picked up with the regular garbage.

GUIDELINES

1. Gloves shall not be considered a substitute for proper hand washing.
2. Gloves must be of proper size for the hand so they do not slip off easily.
3. Disposable gloves will be removed and discarded:
 - a. after contact with each person, fluid item or surface,
 - b. if torn or punctured, or,
 - c. when they are no longer impervious.
4. Gloves may not be washed or disinfected for reuse.
5. When utility gloves are used, they may be decontaminated for reuse providing they can still effectively perform their function.
6. Utility gloves must be discarded if they are cracked, peeled, torn, punctured, or are deteriorating.
7. Employees are responsible for wearing gloves to prevent infections in themselves/clients/families/other individuals.
8. Should employees ever decline to use gloves, they must do so only when, in their professional judgment, and in that particular situation only, their use would:
 - a. prevent the delivery of health care or public safety services; or,
 - b. present an enhanced danger to their or another individual's safety.

