

Hand Hygiene Special issues

Glove use, Skin care

and

Barriers effecting good practise in HH

Outline

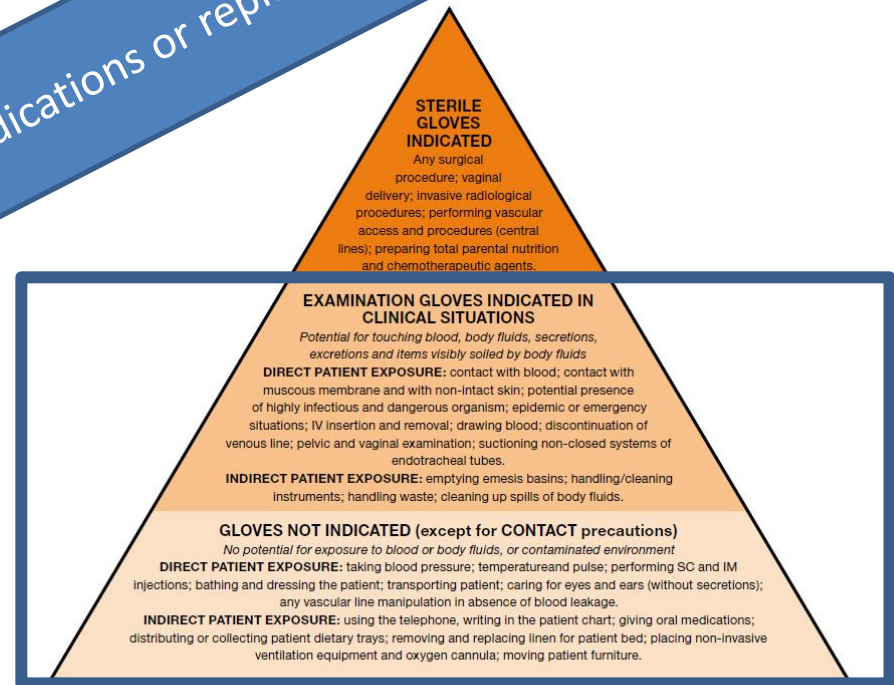
- HH and appropriate glove use
- Hand care and skin integrity
- Barriers affecting good practice in HH

HH and challenges associated with glove use

HH-When do we use gloves?

- Gloves are recommended when there is risk of exposure of body fluids
- HCP caring for patient with break in skin
- If HH action during patient care- gloves should be removed

«In no way does glove use modify HH indications or replace HH»



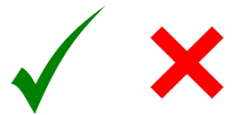
Gloves must be worn according to STANDARD and CONTACT PRECAUTIONS. The pyramid details some clinical examples in which gloves are not indicated, and others in which examination or sterile gloves are indicated. Hand hygiene should be performed when appropriate regardless indications for glove use.

Key messages for glove use and HH

- To prevent contamination of gloves and HCWs' hands:
 - HH should be performed **immediately** before and after glove use
 - Correct technique should be used while donning and doffing gloves
- Gloves should be changed or removed and HH should be performed:
 - When moving from a contaminated body site to a clean body site within the same patient
 - **After touching a contaminated site and before touching a clean site or the environment**
- To minimize the need for glove use and change:
 - HCWs should plan and perform procedures according to a rational sequence of *events*

Please state whether true or false

Statements	T	F
Gloves should be worn in anticipation of contact with blood or another body fluid		
Gloves can be used during the whole episode of care on the same patient		
HH should be performed immediately after glove removal		



Skin care

- Frequent and repeated use of HH products, mainly soaps and other detergents, may cause skin reactions among HCWs
- Presence of dermatitis, abrasions or fissures can trap an increased number of organisms
- These skin problems can increase the risk of transmission and compromise HH

Two major types of skin reactions associated with HH

Most common type

Irritant contact dermatitis (ICD)

Erythema

Dryness

Itching

Burning

Scaling

Fissuring



Rare

Allergic contact dermatitis

Erythema, pruritus

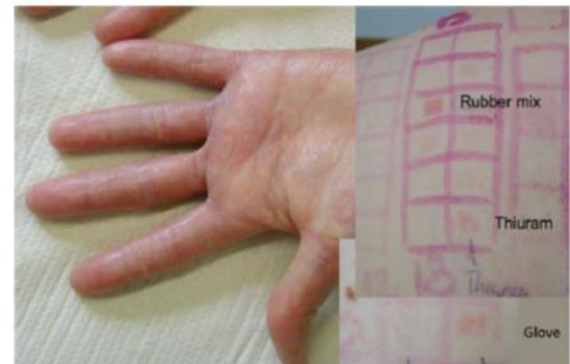
Edema, induration

Vesicles, bullae

Crusting

Fissuring

Lichenification



What can be done to minimize HH related ICD?

Choose less irritant products

ABHRs are less irritating to skin than soap and water



Avoid practices that increase the risk of skin irritation:

- Washing hands before or after using ABHR
- Donning gloves before hands are completely dry
- Using hot water

Apply appropriate skin-care products regularly and frequently to moisturize hands

- Facility-approved skin product should be used
- Skin-care product should be dispensed correctly to prevent contamination



Jewelry and Nails

Long nails and jewelry interfere with effective HH

Jewelry

- The skin underneath rings is colonized more than other skin areas without rings
- Rings may also increase the risk of tears in gloves
- Dermatitis often starts under a ring
- Irritants may be trapped under the ring



Arm jewelry interferes with the action of a HH agent



Nails

Long nails, artificial nails, and nail enhancements (e.g. gel nails, nail art) have been associated with outbreaks of resistant pathogens



Chipped nail polish may provide a harbor for large numbers of organisms on nails



To perform effective hand hygiene

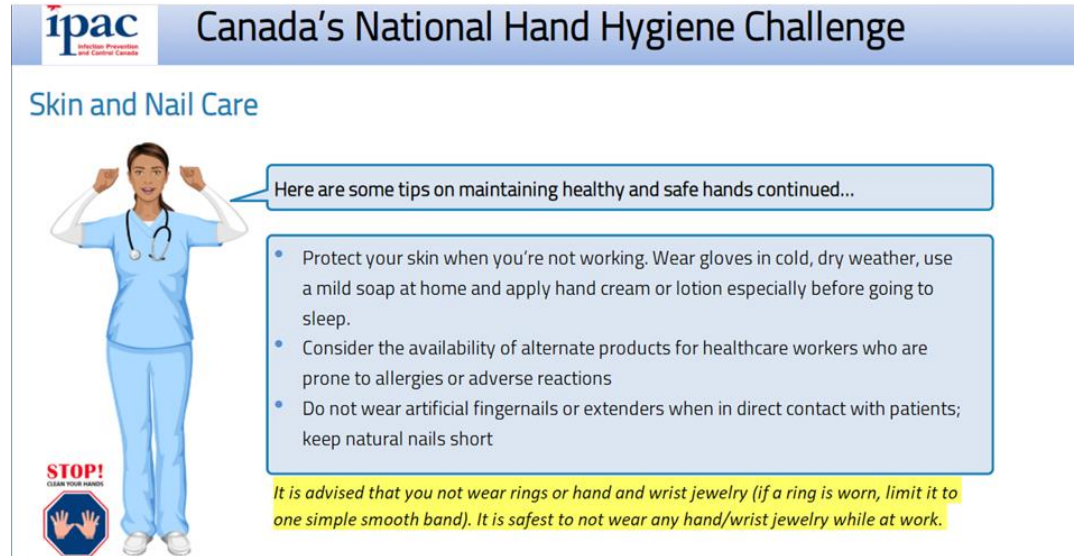
- Remove rings and bracelets during patient care
- Do not wear artificial nails
- Remove chipped nail polish
- Keep nails short and clean
 - <0.2 inches or 0.5cm in length



Unresolved issue

- Each health care facility should establish their policies related to wearing jewellery (hand and/or arm) and nail polish
 - Jewellery must be limited to a single wedding ring without mounted stones and if a watch is worn, it should not be touched

Public Health Ontario. Best Practices for Hand Hygiene in All Health Care Settings, 4th Edition, 2014



ipac Infection Prevention and Control Canada

Canada's National Hand Hygiene Challenge

Skin and Nail Care

Here are some tips on maintaining healthy and safe hands continued...

- Protect your skin when you're not working. Wear gloves in cold, dry weather, use a mild soap at home and apply hand cream or lotion especially before going to sleep.
- Consider the availability of alternate products for healthcare workers who are prone to allergies or adverse reactions
- Do not wear artificial fingernails or extenders when in direct contact with patients; keep natural nails short

STOP!
CLEAN YOUR HANDS

It is advised that you not wear rings or hand and wrist jewelry (if a ring is worn, limit it to one simple smooth band). It is safest to not wear any hand/wrist jewelry while at work.

Which of the following statements is true?

- Irritant contact dermatitis seen in HCWs is due mostly to handwashing
- Dermatitis, cracks, or cuts in hands may cause increased bacterial colonization
- HH and handcare are essential for an effective HH program
- ☒ All of the above

Please state whether true or false

Statements	T	F
Nails must be kept clean and short		
Gloves can be used to avoid irritant contact dermatitis		
Some studies have reported the association of long or artificial nails with outbreaks of resistant microorganisms		

