

# DO YOU NEED GLOVES FOR THAT?

Gloves have their place, that much is true,  
But incorrect use is a big risk too.  
Not every task needs hands encased,  
Let's use them wisely or they go to waste.



## NO GLOVES ARE NEEDED HERE...<sup>1</sup>

### IN-DIRECT PATIENT CONTACT

- ☒ Making beds or changing bed linen
- ☒ Adjusting the patient's pillows
- ☒ Giving oral medication
- ☒ Using the telephone
- ☒ Writing up patient notes or charts
- ☒ Delivering/collecting patient meal trays

### DIRECT PATIENT CONTACT

- ☒ Taking patient observations e.g. temperature, pulse, blood pressure
- ☒ Giving subcutaneous and intramuscular injections
- ☒ Patient bathing or dressing (unless contact with blood or bodily fluids is expected)
- ☒ Transporting a patient
- ☒ Applying non-invasive ventilation or oxygen equipment
- ☒ Any patient care where there is NO contact with blood or bodily fluids
- ☒ Assisting a patient in rehab or walking

USING GLOVES WHEN THEY ARE NOT NEEDED CAN INCREASE SKIN ISSUES, INCREASES WASTE AND LEADS TO MISSED HAND HYGIENE OPPORTUNITIES.

**remember**

Gloves should be worn in the hospital and healthcare facilities when there is a **risk of contact with blood, body fluids/substances or surfaces and equipment contaminated with infectious agents.**

Gloves should also be worn if indicated by site policy e.g. for standard or transmission-based precautions.<sup>2</sup>

1. [https://www.safetyandquality.gov.au/sites/default/files/20249/sustainable\\_glove\\_use\\_for\\_healthcare\\_workers\\_fact\\_sheet\\_0.pdf](https://www.safetyandquality.gov.au/sites/default/files/20249/sustainable_glove_use_for_healthcare_workers_fact_sheet_0.pdf) (Accessed 31 Mar 2025)

2. National Health and Medical Research Council, Australian Commission on Safety and Quality in Health Care, (ACSQHC). Australian Guidelines for the Prevention and Control of Infection in Healthcare. Canberra: 2019.