



Gloves Off in Cardiff and Vale UHB

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Gloves Off

- Current non-sterile glove use in Cardiff & Vale is leading to increased amounts of plastic waste, CO₂, cross infection rates, skin problems for staff and wasted financial resources.
- From January to May 2025 we will reduce glove use on ITU by 23,500 gloves saving 620KgCO₂. Over a year this would equate to a return flight from London to New York!



- **Achievements (The wind in our sails)**
- We have successfully launched in ITU with positive staff and relative feedback and 17,000 viewing our launch post
- Many other areas of the UHB are already showing interest and wanting advice to follow on
- Communication and education aids are now ready to spread and scale across the UHB
- The project is informing the way for other Health Boards via the national campaign led by the Nurse Sustainability Lead Network
- Our posters are going to be used across NHS Wales
- **Enablers**
- Creating a refined problem statement and aim
- System analysis – the Iceberg model
- SUCCES – making ideas stick
- Using driver diagrams
- Spread and Scale Team support



- **Barriers**
- Time – not our substantive role so difficult to get time to do it properly
- Communication - not knowing what has been done to solve this elsewhere
- Knowledge – people not knowing about correct glove use and risk assessing their use
- Fear of change – won't I develop intolerance to antibiotics?
- Post COVID – expectation of both staff and public to have gloves on all of the time
- Finances – cost of resources for in person education of and then from champions and multimedia materials
- Apathy - why bother as we may lose any money we save
- Quality data collection and analytics for success measurement – obtaining robust data re: number of gloves used, cross or line infection rates, contact dermatitis rates



What we need to progress

- Obtain qualitative feedback from patients, relatives and staff
- Collate data to show positive impact of the project
- Acceptance and acknowledgement of the importance of sustainability and gloves off at all levels of NHS Wales. Promotional video including NHS Executive and NHS Wales leaders
- Acceptance of need to allocate time to staff doing the work irrespective of their substantive role
- Introduction of Sustainability Nurse Specialist role
- Access to funds for multimedia education
- Ringfence savings to allow future projects and service improvements on the ward/unit

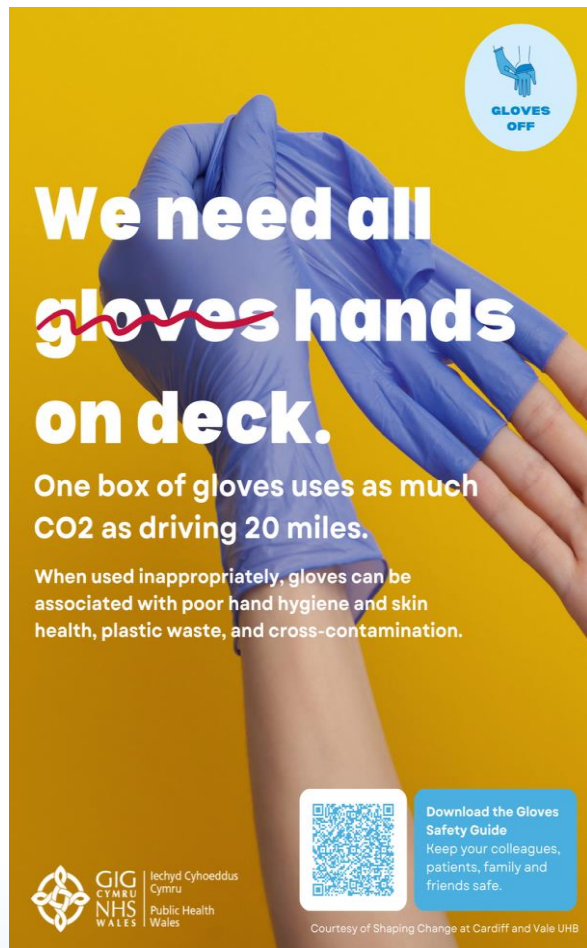


- Ability to train sustainability and gloves off champions
- Promote education and training on ESR
- Make gloves off and ANTT a part of mandatory training
- Liase with all departments of the UHB
- Effective Sustainability Network across NHS Wales to disseminate ideas and projects
- Linking with partners in social care to roll out on a wider basis
- Demonstrate effectiveness of gloves off and provide guidance and leadership for other sectors and industries to follow



The Campaign

Staff / General Info Posters



We need all ~~gloves~~ hands on deck.

One box of gloves uses as much CO2 as driving 20 miles.

When used inappropriately, gloves can be associated with poor hand hygiene and skin health, plastic waste, and cross-contamination.



Download the Gloves Safety Guide
Keep your colleagues, patients, family and friends safe.

 GIG CYMRU NHS WALES | Iechyd Cyhoeddus Cymru Public Health Wales

Courtesy of Shaping Change at Cardiff and Vale UHB



Time to wash ~~your gloves~~ hands of it.

Ask yourself, is there a risk to me? If so, wear gloves. If not, don't.

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You're in safe ~~gloves~~ hands.

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Printed Assets

Staff / General Info Posters



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GLOVES OFF

Ask yourself, is there a risk to me? If so, wear gloves. If not, don't.

Examples of when you don't need gloves:



Providing care for a patient when there is no risk of contact with blood/body fluid, non-intact skin, or mucous membranes.



Dispensing, administering and drawing up IV medication



Undertaking observations



Completing documentation at the bedside



Making and handing out food and drinks



Assisting with feeding



Pushing a chair, trolley, bed or mobilising a patient



Using a computer, mobile device, or telephone

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Glove Safety Guide



GLOVES OFF

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GLOVES OFF

Transferring patients between areas

What about when we transfer patients from one area to another?

The same rules apply.

STOP and THINK. Am I at risk?

The risk to staff in the workplace that require you to wear gloves are:

- If contact with blood, bodily fluids, mucous membranes or non-intact skin is likely.
- If contact with chemical hazards is likely.
- If caring for a patient under isolation precautions.

Wearing gloves when not required is associated with poorer hand hygiene which could put you and your patients at risk.

You may wish to take gloves with you in case you need to perform a task which might put you at risk, but generally they should not be worn during the transfer itself.



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GLOVES OFF



Touching a patient when there is no risk of contact with bodily fluids



Pushing a chair, trolley, bed or mobilising a patient



Using a computer, mobile device, or telephone



Assisting with feeding and personal care



Making and handing out drinks



Dispensing medication



Undertaking observations



Handling out and collecting meal trays



Undertaking incidental rounding or administration work



Completing documentation at the bedside



Routine examination



Administration via injection



Administration via needle free connectors



Transporting specimens



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GLOVES OFF



Printed Assets

Patient and Relative Posters



You may notice that staff don't always wear gloves.

Safe care means only wearing gloves when necessary. When used inappropriately, gloves can be associated with poor hand hygiene and skin health, plastic waste, and cross-contamination.

Feel free to talk to us about this if you have any questions.

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Cardiff Critical Care launch Gloves Off

Jan 20th 2025



We would like to thank
Hayley Valentine, Jacqueline Sweetingham, Andy Thomson, Rhian
Newman-Owen, Bryn Kentish, Kate Blower, Chloe Chettleburgh, Callum
Shaw, Rebecca Aylward, Dr Sam Clarke and colleagues in Wirral UTH
for their support with this project

