

## LEGISLATIVE INTERPRETATIONS

Topic: First Aid – Latex & vinyl gloves	Issued by: Director, Compliance and Regulatory Review
Statute: First Aid Regulation 2004-130	Date Issued: February 8, 2005
Section: Schedule C – Contents of first aid kit	Date Revised:

**Question:**

One of my first aid providers has a latex allergy. Can we use vinyl gloves or should we equip our first aid kit with nitrile or polyurethane gloves?

**Answer:**

Latex gloves are appropriate for procedures and tasks considered moderate to high-risk for exposure to blood and other potentially infectious materials. However, as allergies and sensitivities to latex have become a concern, nitrile or polyurethane gloves are acceptable substitutes, as they are also appropriate for use in moderate to high-risk procedures or tasks.

Vinyl gloves are appropriate only for procedures or tasks that involve a low risk of exposure to blood and other potentially infectious materials, such as removing a foreign object from an eye, stabilizing a broken bone or performing CPR where there is no blood.

Regardless of the glove used, they must be of medical grade quality.

**Referenced legislation**

SCHEDULE C

Contents of first aid kit:

6 pairs of disposable gloves (latex or vinyl)