

# GUIDE TO THE USP <800> GUIDELINES FOR PPE USE WHEN ADMINISTERING CHEMOTHERAPY DRUGS

There is **NO SAFE LEVEL OF EXPOSURE** to cytotoxic chemotherapy drugs for healthcare workers. Protect yourself and your team: follow the latest guidelines for personal protective equipment to reduce your risk.

## PPE FOR USE WITH CHEMOTHERAPY



## ADMINISTRATION & HANDLING

**GLOVES:** 2 PAIRS of powder-free gloves, both tested for use with chemotherapy drugs (ASTM D6978). Double gloving is meant to reduce cross-contamination rather than increasing permeation time. Replace gloves every 30 minutes.<sup>7</sup>

**GOWNS:** A gown for chemotherapy use must be poly-coated, disposable, seamless, with long sleeves and knitted or elastic cuffs. Gowns must close in the back, not the front.<sup>8</sup> Washable gowns are NOT permitted for use with HDs. Replace gowns every 2-3 hours, or immediately after a spill or splash.<sup>9</sup>

**EYE & FACE PROTECTION:** Wear a full face shield to protect the eyes from splashes. Add goggles to protect the eyes if there is a potential for splash exposure.<sup>10</sup>



**RESPIRATORY PROTECTION:** Wear a fit-tested† NIOSH-certified N95 respirator mask to protect against airborne particles and provide a barrier to splashes, droplets, and sprays around the nose and mouth.

† Follow OSHA regulations for training and fit-testing respiratory protection (OSHA respiratory protection standard 29 CFR 1910.134).

### HEADWEAR & FOOTWEAR:

Wear full-coverage head and hair covers (and beard and moustache covers if applicable), including coverage of any religious headwear. Don a second pair of shoe-covers before entering a spill area, and remove the outer pair on leaving. Shoe covers worn in HD handling areas must not be worn to other areas, to avoid spreading HD contamination and exposing other healthcare workers.<sup>11</sup>



## DONNING, DOFFING AND DISPOSAL OF CHEMOTHERAPY GEAR<sup>12</sup>

### TO DON:

1. Before entering patient treatment areas don hair cover, shoe covers, an N95 respirator mask, goggles and face shield.
2. Wash hands, then don a **chemo-rated procedure gown**.
3. Apply 2 pair chemo gloves, **placing the inner glove** underneath the cuff of the chemo gown, and the outer glove over and completely covering the cuff of the chemo gown.

### TO DOFF:

1. Remove outer chemo gloves first.
2. Remove chemo gown and other PPE before removing inner pair of gloves.
3. **Consider all PPE worn when handling Hazardous Drugs to be contaminated and dispose of it immediately in an appropriate, designated waste container.**

**NEVER RE-USE DISPOSABLE PPE.**

You're Fighting Cancer.

# MAKE SURE YOU HAVE THE RIGHT BATTLE GEAR.

In December of 2017, USP published chapter USP <800> of the *USP Compounding Compendium*.<sup>1</sup> USP <800> addresses many aspects of worker and patient protection from hazardous drugs, including environmental and engineering controls and drug handling guidelines, as well as Personal Protective Equipment.

## BE IN COMPLIANCE WITH HALYARD\* CHEMO GEAR\*

Because regulations issued by OSHA and USP are **enforceable** and **apply to all healthcare workers** who handle hazardous chemotherapy drugs,<sup>2</sup> Halyard wants to make sure that you have the right protective gear and know how to wear it properly to comply with the new guidelines.

- PURPLE NITRILE-XTRA\* Exam Gloves
- **New!** PINK UNDERGUARD\* Nitrile Gloves
- STERLING NITRILE-XTRA\* Exam Gloves
- New! CHEMO360\* Gowns for Chemotherapy Use
- HALYARD PROCEDURE GOWNS for Chemotherapy Use
- FLUIDSHIELD\* N95 Respirator masks
- HALYARD\* Face Shields
- HALYARD\* Headwear and Shoe Covers



### HOW TESTED IS YOUR PPE?

HALYARD\* Gloves and Gowns for Chemotherapy<sup>4</sup> are tested for resistance to as many as

**52 Chemotherapy Drugs**

Compared to 10 or fewer for most available gowns and gloves. Make sure you have the protection you need when fighting cancer!

### GET THE LIST:

[www.gearupforthefight.com](http://www.gearupforthefight.com)

### SPILLS!

Spills of hazardous drugs (HDs) must be contained and cleaned immediately, by personnel wearing appropriate PPE, including:

- chemotherapy gloves
- an impervious gown intended for use with HDs,
- hair cover and shoe covers,
- facial and respiratory protection
- When cleaning a spill larger than can be managed with a Spill Kit, goggles and a fit-tested full-facepiece as well as chemical cartridge-type respirator or powered air-purifying respirator (PAPR) should be worn.

**Spill kits** containing all required HD cleaning materials must be readily available in all HD-handling areas.<sup>3</sup>

1. USP General Chapter <800> Hazardous Drugs – Handling in Healthcare Settings, United States Pharmacopoeial Convention, USP 40–NF 35, Second Supplement (2017), 1. [www.usp.org](http://www.usp.org)  
 2. Kienle, Patricia C, The Chapter <800> Answer Book, ASHP Publications, 2017, p vii.  
 3. USP General Chapter <800>, 11.  
 4. HALYARD\* PURPLE NITRILE-XTRA\*, STERLING NITRILE X-TRA\* and PINK UNDERGUARD\* Exam Gloves and HALYARD\* Procedure Gowns Tested for Use with Chemotherapy  
 5. Must meet ASTM standard D6978  
 6. Tested per ASTM F739  
 7. USP General Chapter <800>, 6.  
 8. Ibid.  
 9. Ibid.  
 10. USP General Chapter <800>, 6-7.  
 11. Kienle, 41-42.  
 12. Ibid.  
 13. USP General Chapter <800>, 7.  
 \*PURPLE, PURPLE NITRILE, PURPLE NITRILE-XTRA and the COLOR PURPLE are Registered Trademarks or Trademarks of O&M Halyard or its affiliates.