GLOVE USE DURING THE COVID-19 PANDEMIC

Yale University staff who routinely wear gloves to protect against identified hazards in their workplace should continue to do so for those specific applications. The appropriate glove for each application can be found in either the Laboratory Hazard Assessment Tool for researchers/laboratory operations or the department-specific PPE tables.

Gloves are NOT recommended to protect the general public against potential exposure to COVID-19:

- The coronavirus will NOT be able to penetrate the normal skin of the hands. Frequent hand washing with soap and water should be practiced.
- Gloves can give a false sense of protection and may lead to the spreading of viruses if not changed frequently.
- Gloves are required to be removed when exiting a laboratory and should not be worn in a hallway or other public space.

Best ways to protect yourself from COVID-19:

- Practice social distancing from others as SARS-Cov-2 spreads by droplets and aerosols from those already infected. Keep 6-feet away from others whenever possible.
- Wear a face covering in public places.
- Wash your hands regularly with soap and water.

The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) recommends that the general public wear gloves only when cleaning and disinfecting surfaces and when caring for someone who is sick.

When you are routinely cleaning your office or home:

- Follow precautions listed on the disinfectant product label, which may include:
  - wearing gloves (reusable or disposable) and
  - having good ventilation by turning on a fan or opening a window to get fresh air into the room you’re cleaning.
  - If you are preparing solutions of disinfectants or spraying disinfectant, you will also need to protect your eyes with safety glasses or a face shield.
- If wearing reusable gloves, rinse them off, remove, and air dry.
- Discard disposable gloves in your trash receptacle.
- Wash your hands after removing the gloves.

If you are providing care to someone who is sick at home or in another non-healthcare setting:

- Use disposable gloves when cleaning and disinfecting the area around the person who is sick or other surfaces that may be frequently touched in the home.
- Use disposable gloves when touching or having contact with blood, stool, or body fluids, such as saliva, mucus, vomit, and urine. Double-gloving is recommended.
- After using disposable gloves, throw them out in a lined trash can. Do not disinfect or reuse the gloves.
- Wash your hands after removing the gloves.

Gloves worn in the settings described above do not need to be medical-grade, as those types of gloves should be reserved for use in hospitals or other healthcare settings.