

# Saving hands saves dollars at Cincinnati Children's Hospital Medical Center



## Medical Gloves with Neu-Thera®

After years of trying to accommodate everyone's preferences in medical gloves, Cincinnati Children's Hospital Medical Center found itself with a storeroom holding dozens of different styles and sizes – and a large stack of invoices to match.

In an effort to reduce the number and variety of gloves being ordered for the 423-bed pediatric hospital's clinical and research lab programs, managers organized a "glove expo" for those of the 7200 employees who work in the labs.

"Our goal was to get down to fewer gloves that would work for more people," said Peggy Riordan, a clinical lab specialist who helped organize the event.

Cardinal Health representative, Tom Oetinger, took the company's gloves with Neu-Thera® formulation to the expo, and the goal was achieved.

**"These gloves showed up and everyone just went crazy for them,"** Riordan said. "Everybody who knows about them has been thrilled."

Gloves with Neu-Thera® formulation are coated with a proprietary blend of ingredients designed specifically to protect, soothe, moisturize and restore skin health on the hands of healthcare professionals. For lab employees who spend most of their days wearing and changing gloves and washing their hands, that is welcomed relief.

"I spend at least eight hours a day in gloves," said Bev Engle, a clinical lab specialist in the clinical lab. "I'm allergic to nitriles, latex and the purple nitriles, **but after several months in Esteem® gloves, I'm not breaking out at all.**"

"I wear gloves constantly and my hands are a problem," agrees Linda Anderson, a medical technologist in the general lab. "I developed a latex allergy in the '80s, and more recently I became allergic to the dye in purple gloves. I was running out of options."

She no longer looks for options.

**"The Esteem® gloves with Neu-Thera® formulation have helped my hands immensely,"** she said. "Even my cuticles are better. Now I don't have any dermatitis at all. There is one other kind of gloves I could wear, but these are just so much nicer."

Part of what makes Esteem® gloves nicer is the balanced formulation that Cardinal Health's team of scientists and dermatologists developed during years of testing combinations of ingredients. They considered typical wear times and differences in the demands put on examination and surgical gloves as well as each ingredient's benefit for skin health.

The result? A combination of provitamin B5, gluconolactone and glycerin, selected for specific attributes and carefully proportioned to assure maximum effectiveness from each.



Treat your hands well™  
while you treat your patients

Provitamin B5/panthenol restores softness and elasticity, soothes irritations and helps heal minor wounds, while gluconolactone minimizes flakiness and restores skin smoothness. Glycerin moisturizes and plasticizes the stratum corneum, or outermost layer of skin, to optimize skin barrier function.

Together, the ingredients form a soothing and protective treatment that helps hands weather constant gloving and hand washing, even in winters that are less than friendly.

"I have problem hands, especially in cold weather," said Tammy Rausch, a research assistant in endocrinology. "My fingertips get cracked and I have open sores, but I haven't had a problem since I started wearing these gloves (gloves with Neu-Thera® formulation). **I've even noticed a softer feeling when I go home.**"

"Not only do Esteem® gloves with Neu-Thera® feel softer, they fit better," said Nancy Bassarab, a medical technologist.

"Other gloves we've had have been too tight on my fingers and were hard to bend at the knuckles," she said. **"These gloves are more comfortable and they fit better.** If gloves are too tight, they hurt."

Nancy Doughman, a clinical lab specialist, appreciates the gloves' texture as well as their fit.

**"These gloves fit like a second skin,"** she said. "And they're not slippery. That's important, because I work in the special chemistry area and we do a lot of manual testing such as chromatography."

Any hospital should evaluate coated medical gloves and determine the validity of the testing procedures used as the basis for manufacturer's claims before switching to them, but every hospital would be wise to consider them for all employees.

For the employees in Cincinnati Children's Hospital Medical Center, the real value of Esteem® gloves with Neu-Thera® formulation is the way they improve the condition of their hands.

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