

# Esteem® Blue Gloves with Neu-Thera® Formulation leave specialist pain-free



## Medical Gloves with Neu-Thera® Formulation

As a specialist and former medical director with the Pain Management Center of a major medical center in East Tennessee, Dr. James Wike treats up to 25 patients with chronic pain every day.

Procedures may last from 2 minutes to 45 minutes, and each requires a thorough hand washing and a change of gloves. Dr. Wike's hands were paying the price.

"I have contact dermatitis," said the board-certified anesthesiologist and pain management specialist. "I'm using alcohol rubs throughout the day, and my hands get very dry."

To combat the dryness, redness and itching that contact dermatitis can cause, Dr. Wike began using powder-free gloves. That helped to some extent, but there were other problems.

"The gloves were dry and difficult to get on," he said. "And they broke and ripped a lot. They worked pretty well to combat the dermatitis, but they were far from perfect."

Cardinal Health gloves specialist Rosie Squeo and sales representative Tommy Cooper had a better alternative. During a routine visit to the Pain Management Center and its affiliated hospital, Cooper suggested that Dr. Wike try on a pair of Esteem® Blue gloves with Neu-Thera® formulation. The effect was immediate.

"I just put them on once and I felt like I'd gone from a family sedan to a luxury car," said Dr. Wike. "I don't think my hands have ever felt so good. Since I've been using these gloves, my hands are much softer and not nearly as dry."

Dr. Wike and three more of the center's five physicians now benefit from the soothing effect the gloves have on hands that are subject to continuous daily hand washing and prolonged gloving.

Medical gloves are designed to be occlusive. They are intended to prevent penetration of body fluids and other hazardous substances. However, their occlusive properties mean that skin moisture cannot evaporate, and the skin's protective barrier properties can be diminished.

Esteem® gloves with Neu-Thera® formulation can be an effective, comfortable and soothing solution. Even people who aren't subject to contact dermatitis often report that these nonlatex gloves feel soft and comfortable from the first wearing. That feeling continues even after the gloves are removed because they leave a thin, silky, invisible protective coating on hands.

"And they work well," said Dr. Wike.

"These gloves have a very smooth finish, but I can feel more things with them," he said. "The feel is nice—and why wear gloves that aren't fun to put on?"



Treat your hands well®  
while you treat your patients

## Why gloves with Neu-Thera® Work So Well

Esteem® gloves with Neu-Thera® formulation are coated with a proprietary formulation designed specifically to protect healthcare providers' hands. After extensive testing, Cardinal Health scientists developed the precise formulation to ease the redness, burning, itching and pain that repeated hand washing and wearing gloves for extended periods can cause.

Esteem® gloves with Neu-Thera® formulation are coated with a carefully balanced combination of gluconolactone, glycerin, Provitamin B5/panthenol and chitosan. All have been proven to be effective in preventing and controlling damage due to dry skin and contact dermatitis.

Gluconolactone minimizes flakiness and restores skin smoothness. Glycerin moisturizes and plasticizes the stratum corneum (outermost layer of the skin), optimizing skin barrier function. Provitamin B5/panthenol restores softness and elasticity and helps heal minor wounds. Chitosan inhibits inflammation, promotes regeneration of injured tissue and binds to skin to act as a protective barrier.

It's impossible for physicians to avoid hand washing and gloving. Too often, it's equally impossible for them to avoid the dry, red, rough, scaly "dishpan" hands that can accompany good hand hygiene. Cold, dry winter air—or inadequately humidified warm indoor air—can exacerbate the discomfort.

In addition to being uncomfortable and unsightly, damaged hands are at increased risk for bacterial infection and disease. The good news is that most skin reactions are irritations, and most irritations can be managed with improved hand care and appropriate gloving.

The challenge for many healthcare practitioners is to find the most protective and least damaging hand washing/gloving protocol. They may use glove liners, change hand soaps and try numerous lotions. Not all lotions, however, are compatible with antiseptic cleansers or hand scrubs, and those that contain mineral oil, petroleum or lanolin should not be used with latex gloves. Even lotions that meet infection control standards must be used thoroughly and frequently if they are to adequately protect hands. However, physicians don't always have the time to meet recommended usage guidelines.

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