



Clinical Practice Procedures: Other/Donning and doffing of medical gloves

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Date	September, 2024
Purpose	To ensure a consistent procedural approach to the donning and doffing of medical gloves.
Scope	Applies to Queensland Ambulance Service (QAS) clinical staff.
Health care setting	Pre-hospital assessment and treatment.
Population	Applies to all ages unless stated otherwise.
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Author	Clinical Quality & Patient Safety Unit, QAS
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Donning and doffing of medical gloves

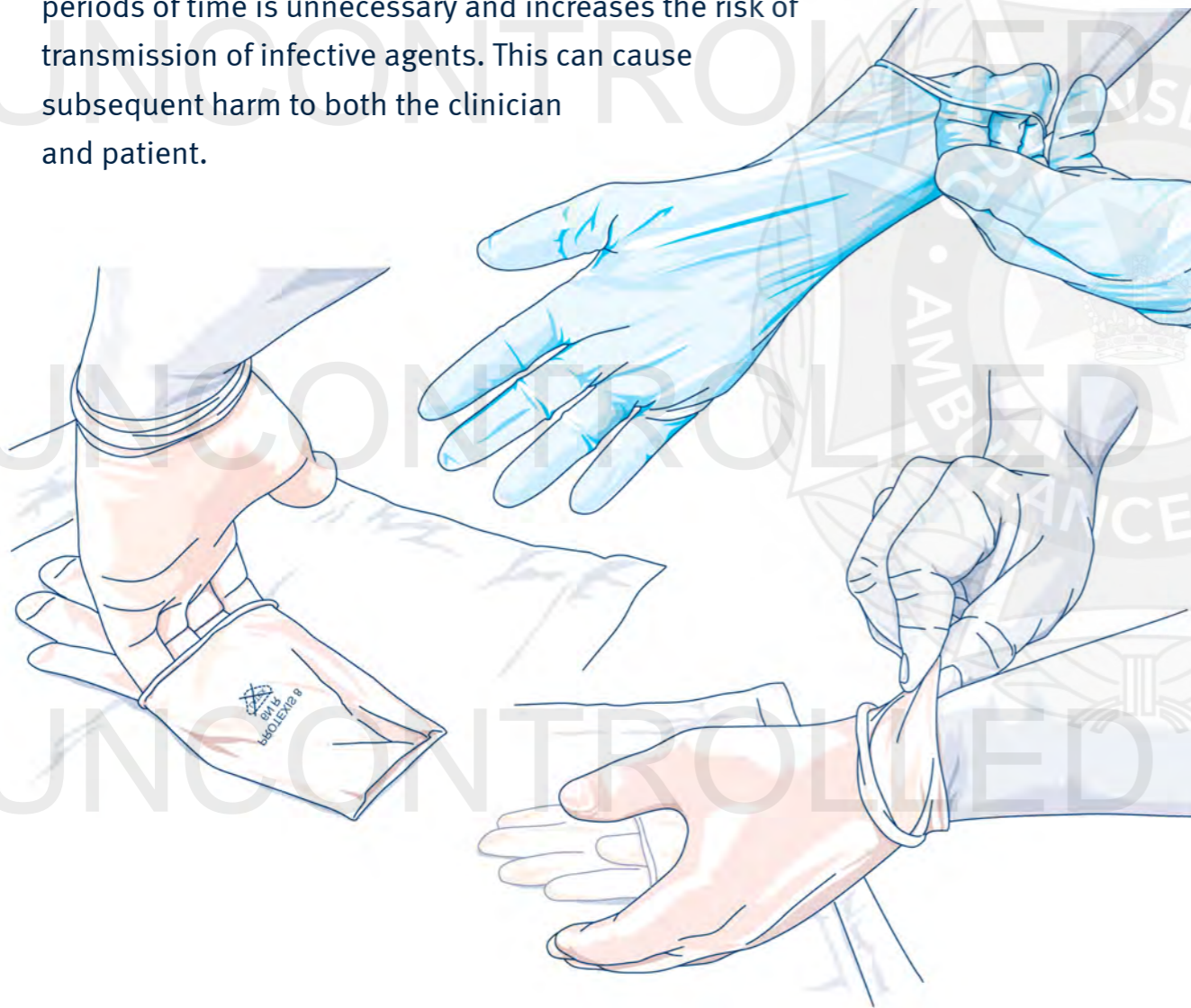
September, 2024

Medical gloves assist in protecting both clinicians and patients from exposure to infectious pathogens by breaking the chain of transmission. Medical gloves are only indicated for specific assessed risks.

Medical gloves used by QAS can be classified into 2 broad categories:

- Non-sterile examination gloves; and
- Sterile surgical gloves.

The use of gloves when not clinically indicated or for prolonged periods of time is unnecessary and increases the risk of transmission of infective agents. This can cause subsequent harm to both the clinician and patient.



Indications⁽¹⁾

Non-sterile gloves:

- An assessed and visual risk of exposure to blood or other body fluids
- When the patient is displaying symptoms consistent with an infectious disease
- When the patient is considered cytotoxic (has received chemotherapy within previous 7 days)
- When using cleaning wipes or other cleaning products

Sterile gloves (aseptic requirement):

- Surgical procedures (e.g. thoracotomy, thoracostomy, wound closure (suturing/skin adhesive))
- Vaginal birth, bimanual compression, or other maternity procedures

Contraindications

- No assessed and visual risk of exposure to blood or body fluids identified, and
- Patient not displaying symptoms consistent with an infectious disease, and
- Patient not considered cytotoxic

Complications

- Glove contamination
- Contamination during invasive procedures
- Contact dermatitis or other reactions to glove material

+ Additional information

- Appropriate hand hygiene is the single most effective intervention to reduce Healthcare Associated Infections.^[1]
- Hand hygiene products (e.g. alcohol based hand rubs) should not be applied to gloves.
- Clinicians are not to wear two pairs of gloves ('double-gloving').
- If worn, gloves are to be removed as soon as no longer indicated.
- Under no circumstances are the same pair of gloves to be worn for the care of more than one patient.
- If the integrity of a glove is compromised (e.g. punctured), it should be changed as soon as possible and complemented with hand hygiene.



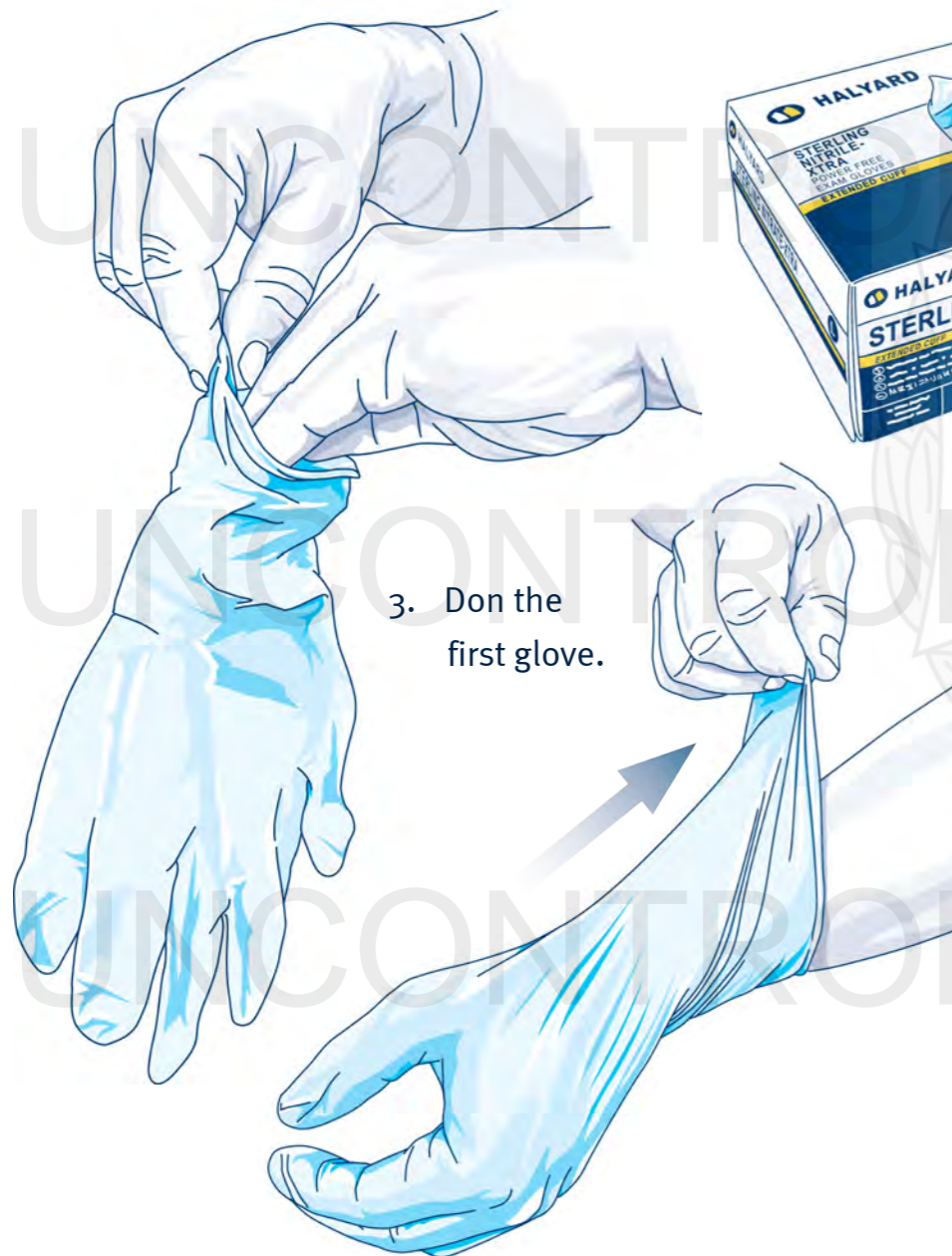
DONNING

NON-STERILISED GLOVES

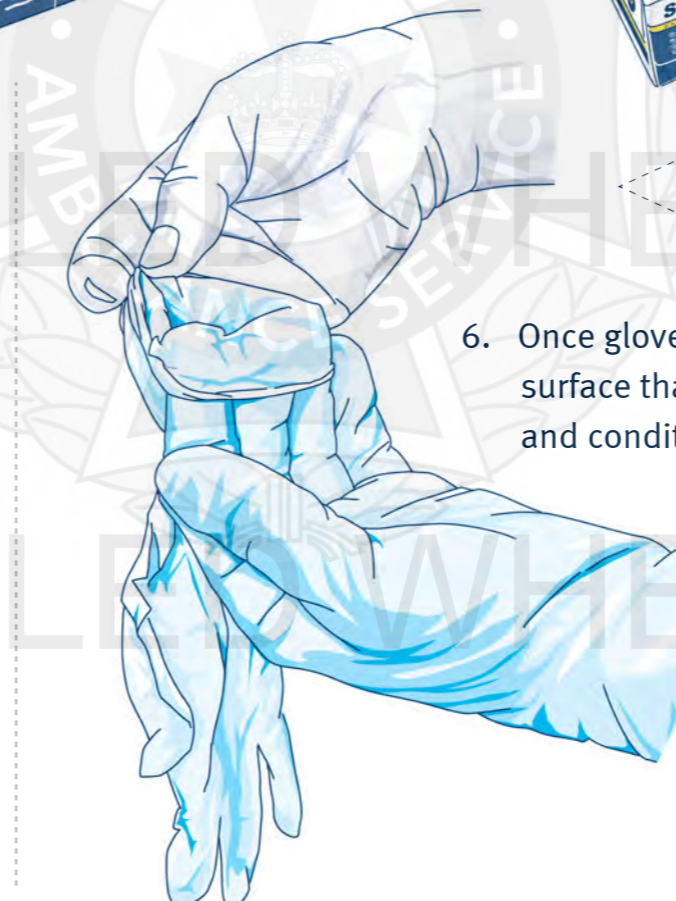
1. Remove the glove from the original box.
2. Touch only a restricted surface of the glove corresponding to the wrist (at the top edge of the cuff).



4. Take the second glove with the bare hand and touch only a restricted surface of glove corresponding to the wrist.



3. Don the first glove.



5. To avoid touching the skin of the forearm with the gloved hand, turn the external surface of the glove to be donned on the folded fingers of the gloved hand, thus permitting to glove the second hand.

6. Once gloved, hands should not touch any surface that is not defined by indications and conditions of the gloves use.



DOFFING
NON-STERILISED GLOVES

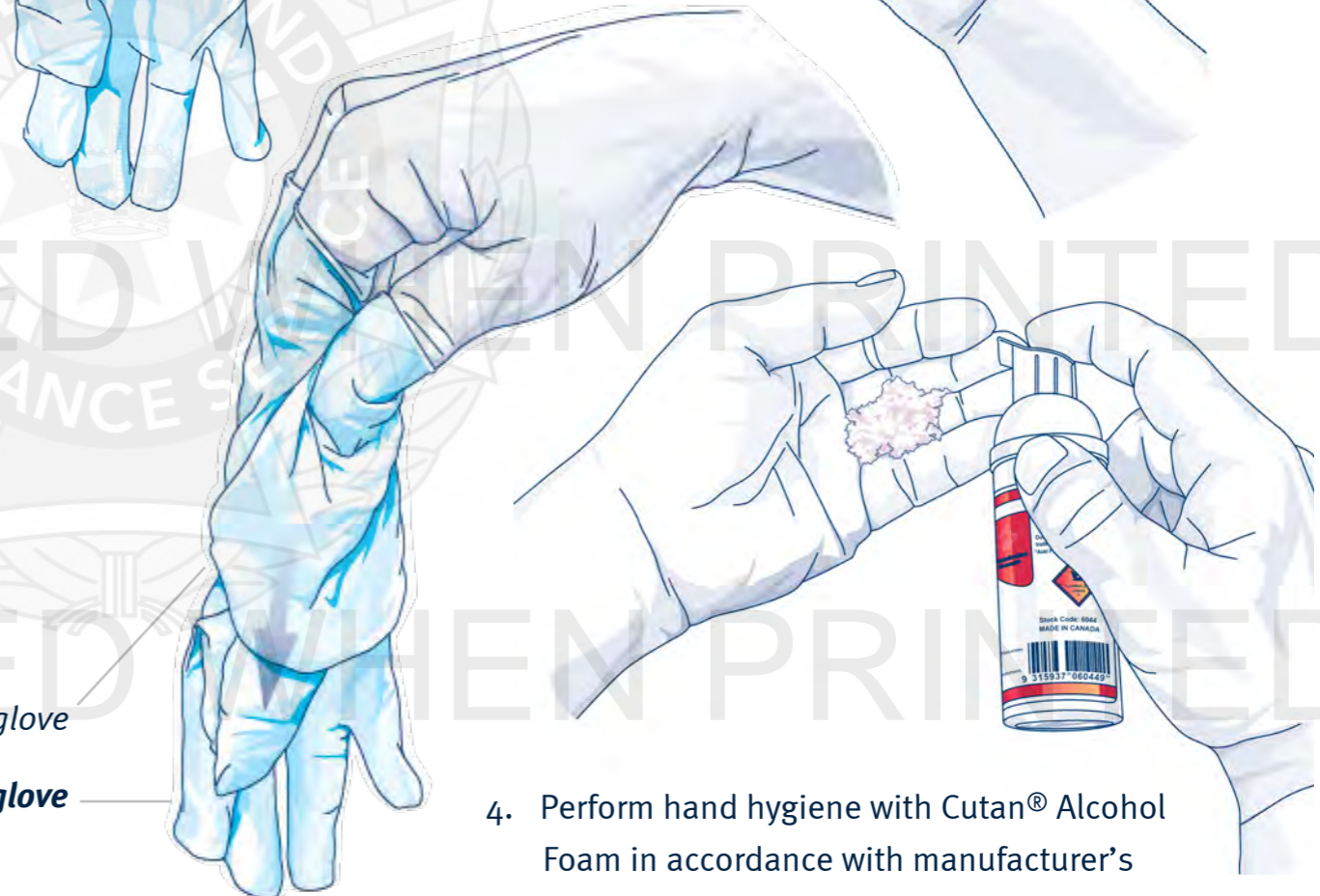
1. Pinch one glove at the wrist level and gently peel off the hand allowing the glove to turn inside out.



2. Hold the removed glove in the gloved hand and slide the fingers of the ungloved hand inside between the glove and the wrist. Remove the second glove by rolling it down the hand and folding it in the first glove.



3. Appropriately discard the removed gloves.



Second glove is folded over the first glove

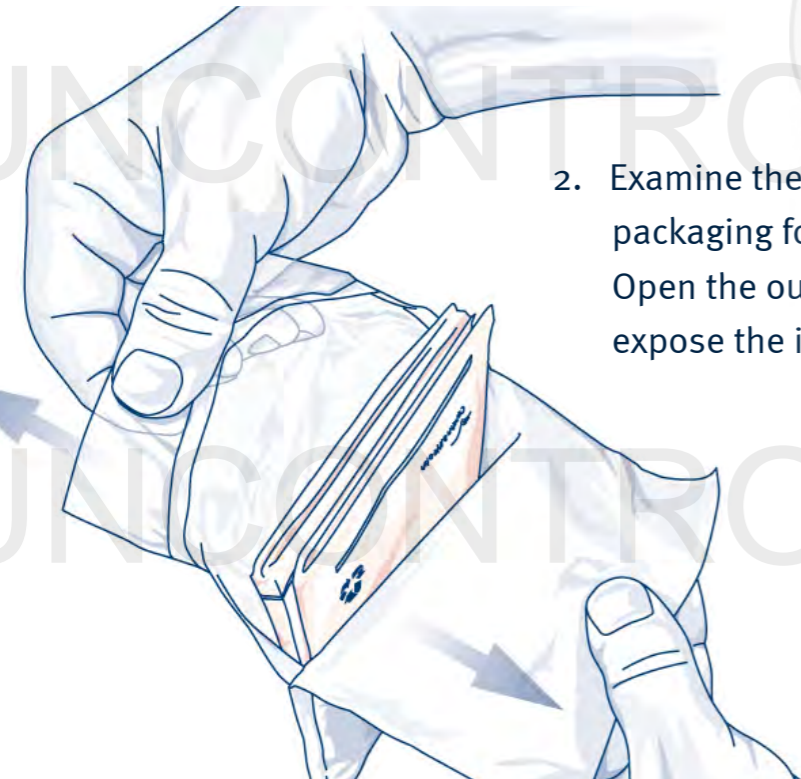
First glove

4. Perform hand hygiene with Cutan® Alcohol Foam in accordance with manufacturer's instructions.

DONNING STERILISED GLOVES

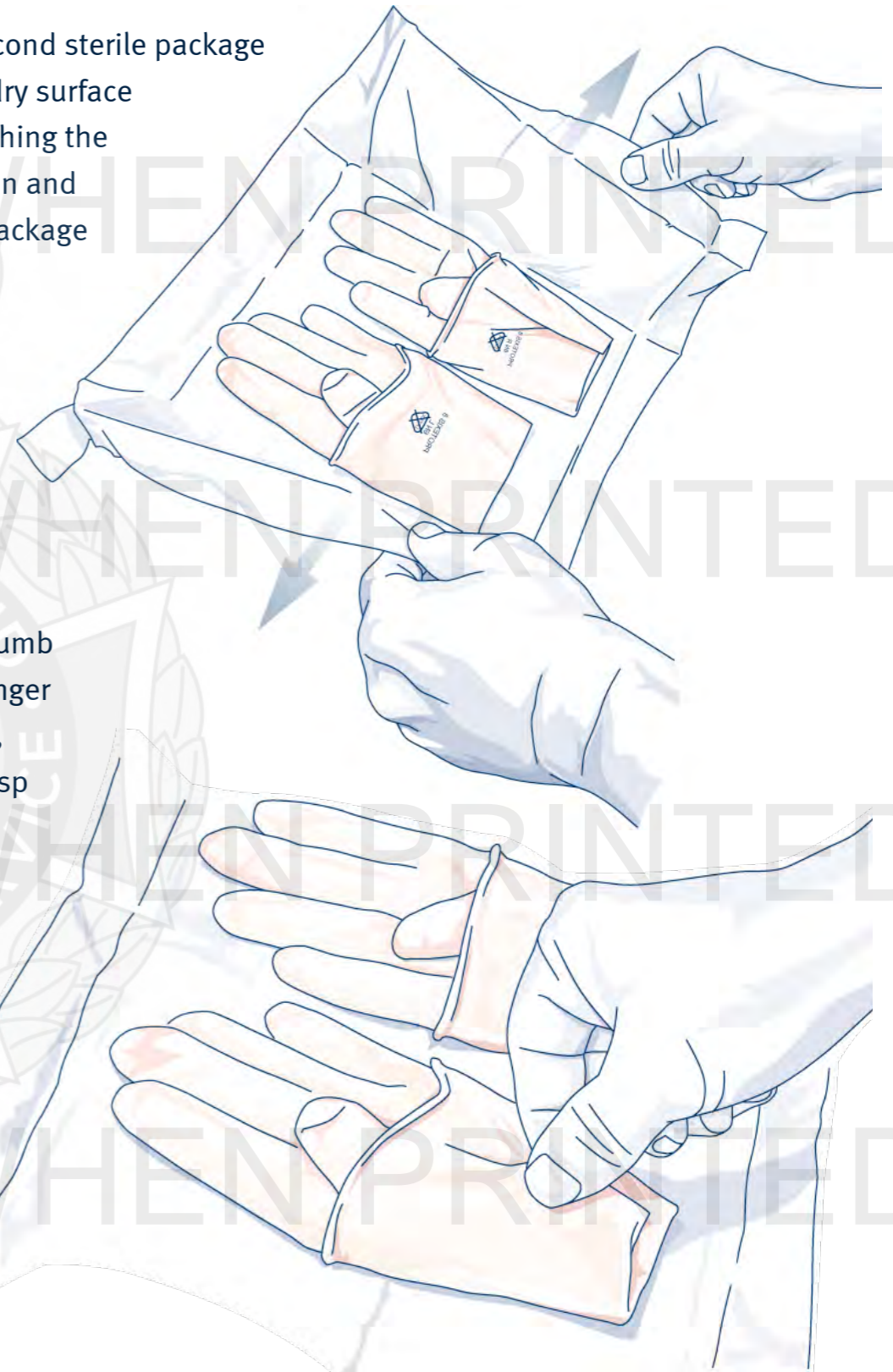


1. Perform hand hygiene with Cutan® Alcohol Foam in accordance with manufacturer's instructions.



2. Examine the sterile glove packaging for integrity. Open the outer packet to expose the inner sterile package.

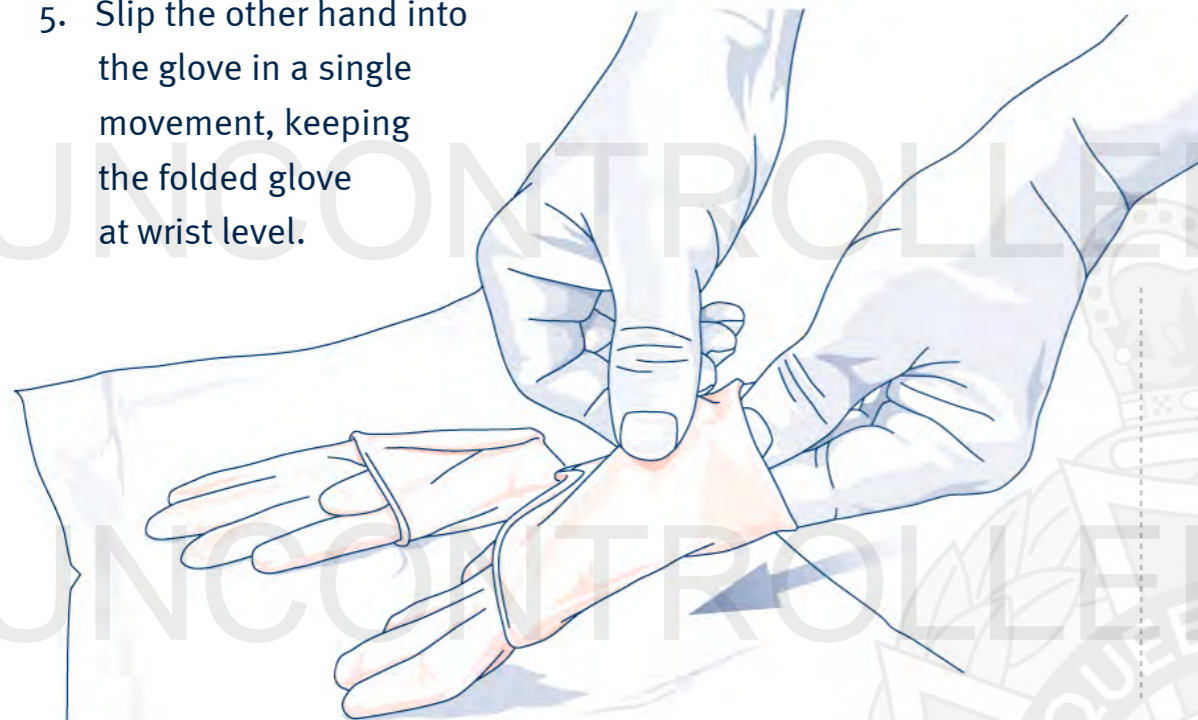
3. Place the second sterile package on a clean, dry surface without touching the surface. Open and unfold the package so the glove cuffs are nearest to the clinician.



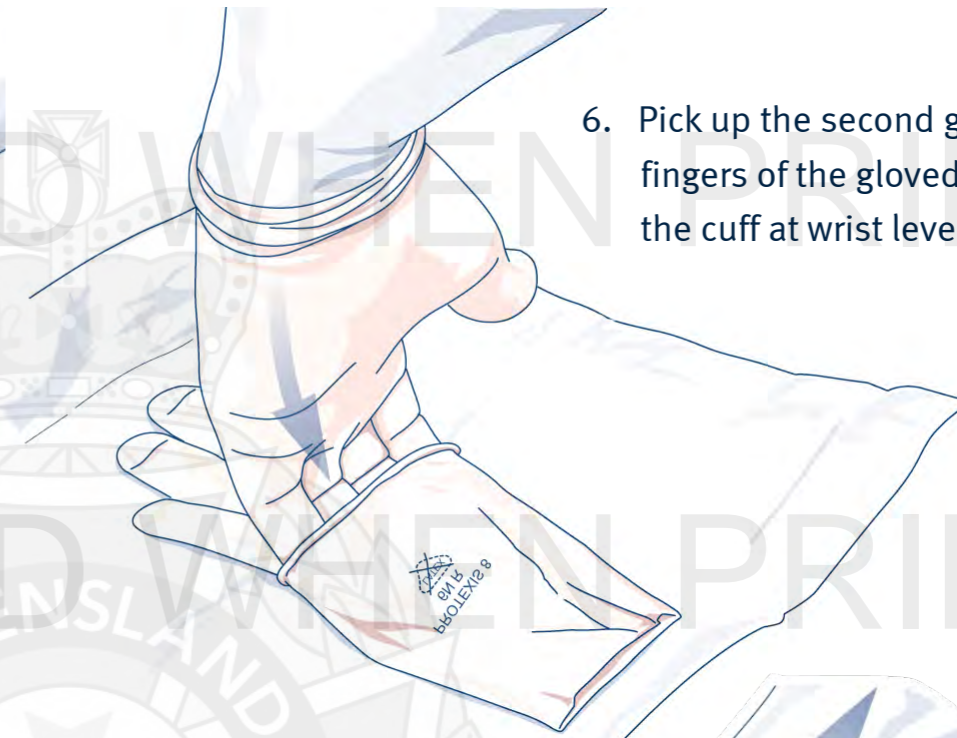
4. Using the thumb and index finger of one hand, carefully grasp the folded cuff edge of the glove.

Procedure – Donning and doffing of medical gloves

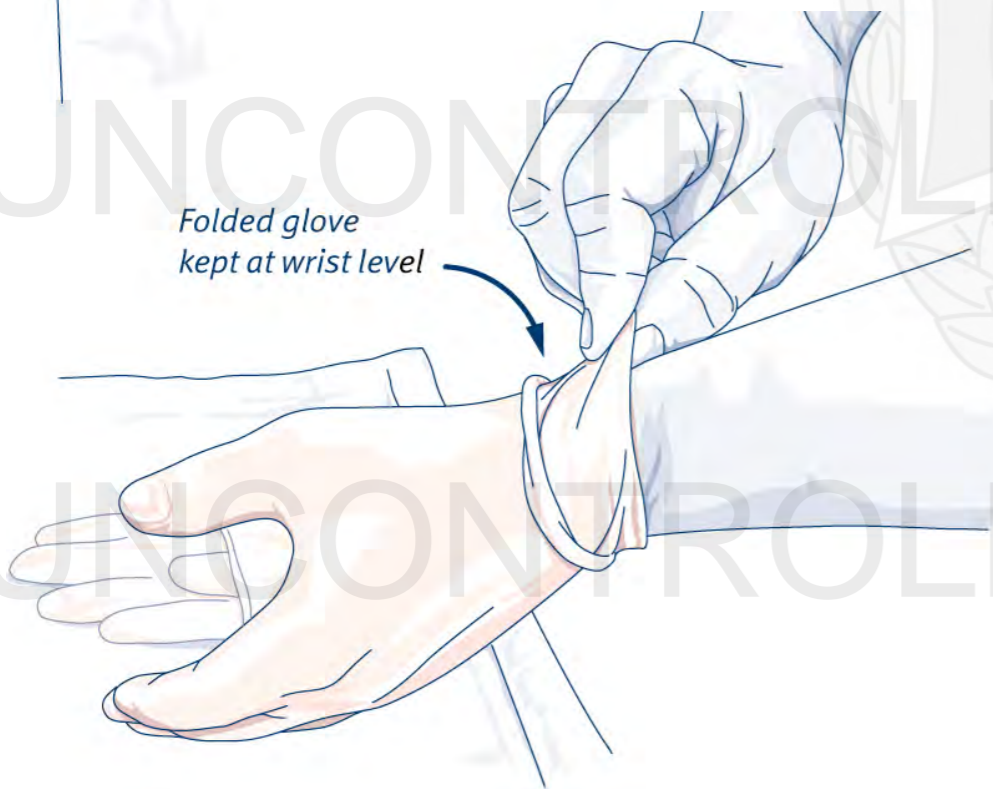
5. Slip the other hand into the glove in a single movement, keeping the folded glove at wrist level.



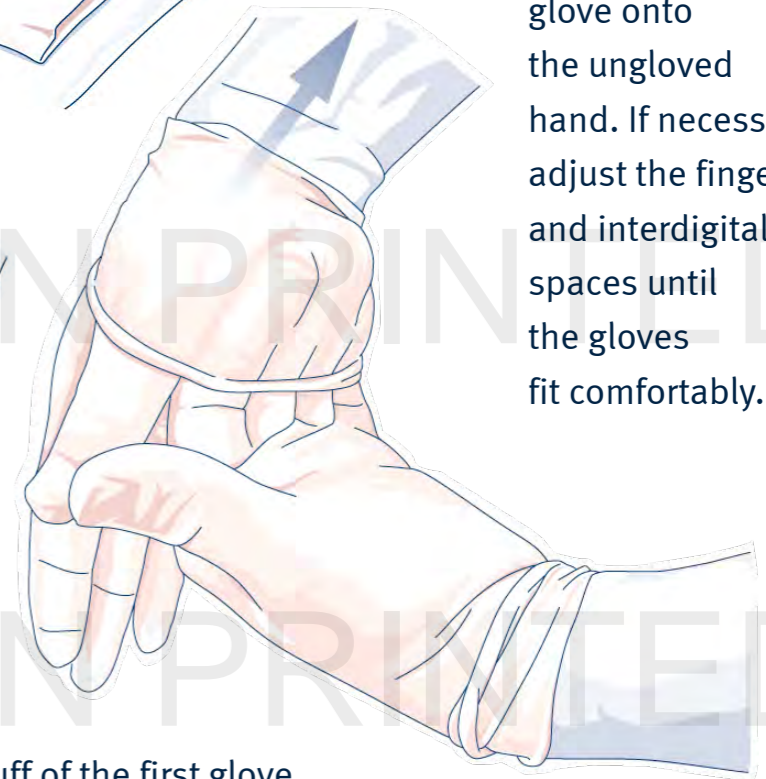
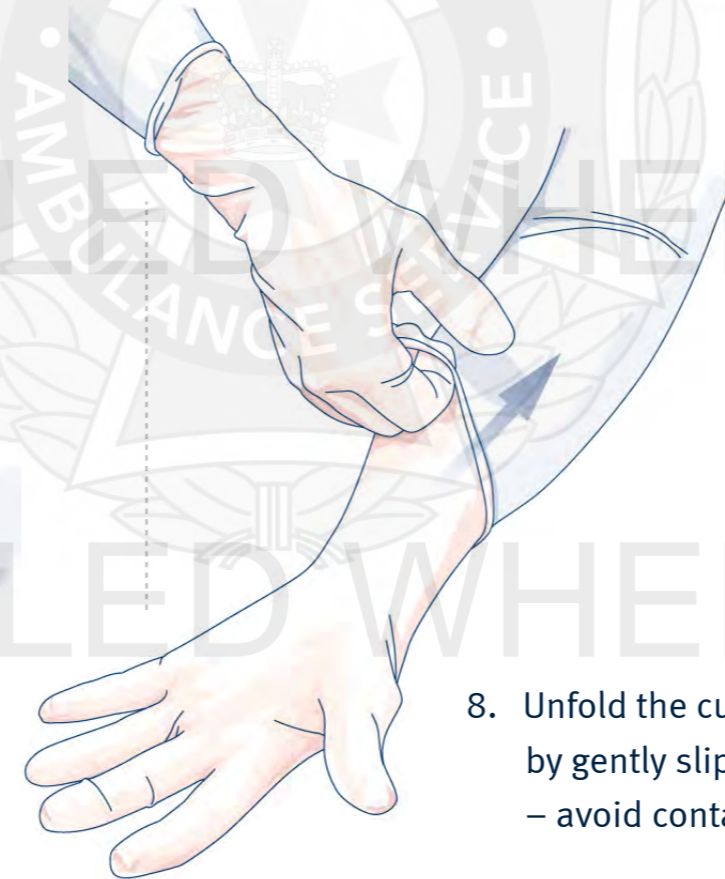
6. Pick up the second glove by sliding the fingers of the gloved hand underneath the cuff at wrist level.



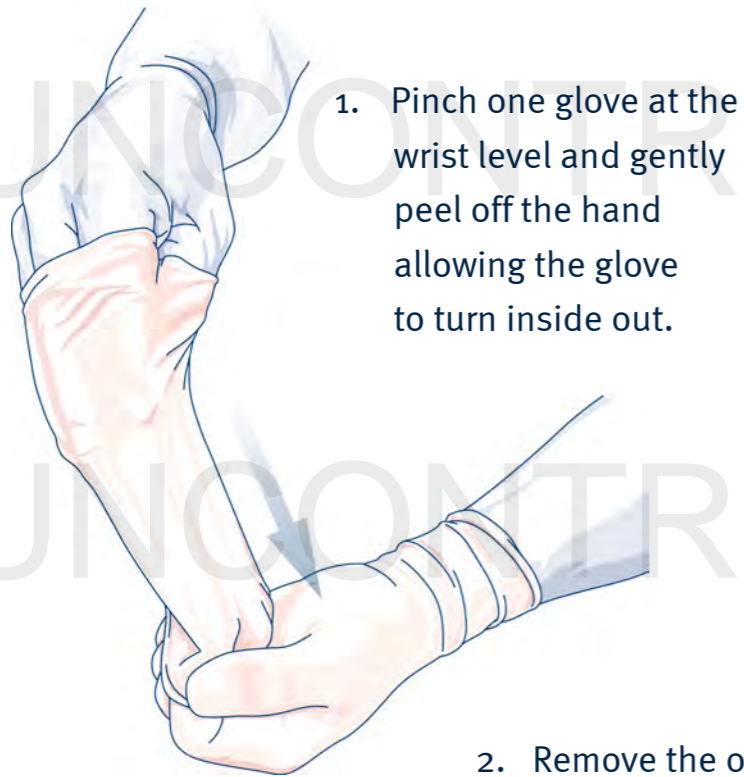
7. In a single movement, slip the second glove onto the ungloved hand. If necessary, adjust the fingers and interdigital spaces until the gloves fit comfortably.



8. Unfold the cuff of the first glove by gently slipping fingers inside the fold – avoid contact with ungloved surfaces.

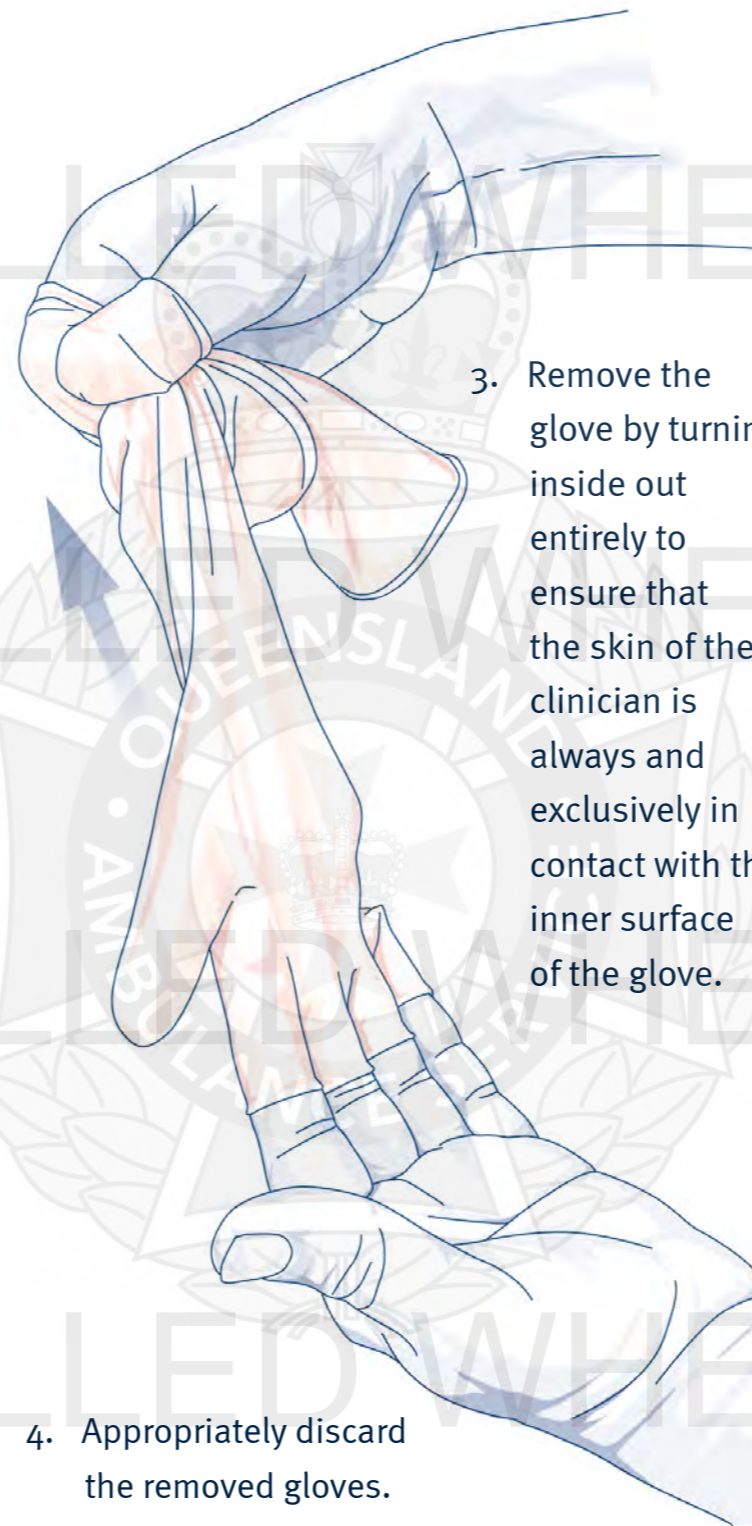
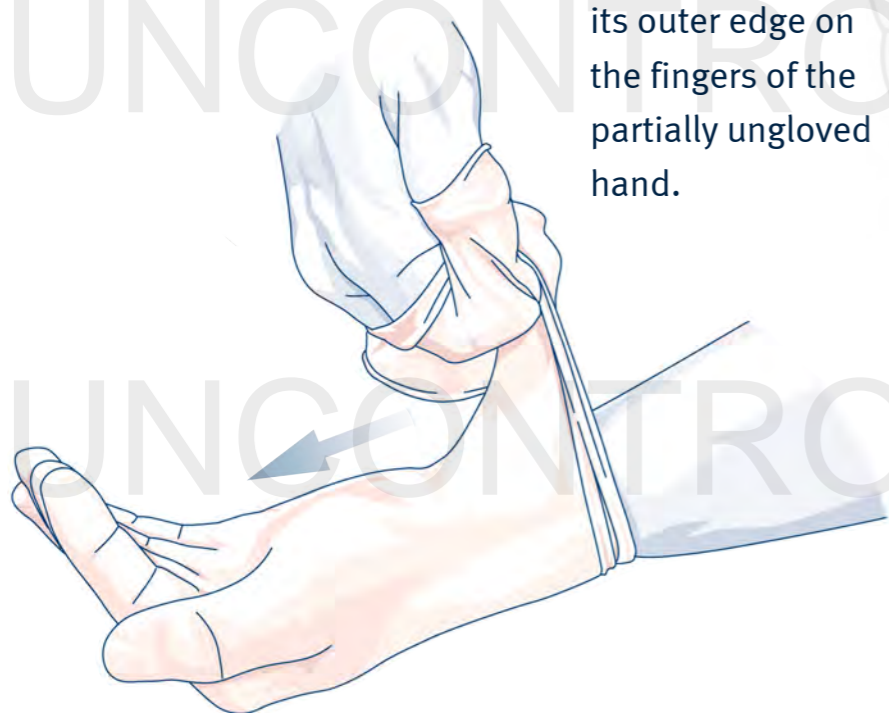


DOFFING STERILISED GLOVES



1. Pinch one glove at the wrist level and gently peel off the hand allowing the glove to turn inside out.

2. Remove the other glove by turning its outer edge on the fingers of the partially ungloved hand.



3. Remove the glove by turning inside out entirely to ensure that the skin of the clinician is always and exclusively in contact with the inner surface of the glove.

4. Appropriately discard the removed gloves.



5. Perform hand hygiene with Cutan® Alcohol Foam in accordance with manufacturer's instructions.