



**MONTANA STATE HOSPITAL  
FORENSIC MENTAL HEALTH FACILITY  
POLICY AND PROCEDURE**

**DIETARY GLOVE USE FOR  
THE FORENSIC MENTAL HEALTH FACILITY**

**Effective Date:** May 13, 2020

**Policy: MSH FMHF-19  
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- I. PURPOSE:** To protect food, to prevent cross-contamination by minimizing bare hand contact with cooked and ready-to-eat foods, and to protect patrons from contagious and foodborne illnesses.
- II. POLICY:**
- A. Contract Dietary and Montana State Hospital (MSH) Forensic Mental Health Facility (FMHF) personnel will utilize gloves to prevent microorganisms from contaminating the food and spreading infection.
1. Gloves should be used when preparing or touching ready-to-eat or already cooked foods that will not be thoroughly cooked or reheated after it is prepared.
  2. When using utensils, gloves should not be used if you are not directly touching the food with your bare hands.
- III. DEFINITIONS:**
- A. **Foodborne Illnesses:** Disease carried or transmitted to people by food.
- B. **Cross Contamination:** Occurs when microorganisms are transferred from one surface or food to another.
- C. **Ready-To-Eat Food:** Food which will not be cooked or reheated before serving. This includes fresh produce, items cooked in advanced to be served cold, sandwiches, cheese, desserts, etc.
- IV. RESPONSIBILITIES:**
- A. Dietary Services:
1. Will provide hand washing facilities. Where sinks are not practical, approved hand sanitizer will be available.
  2. Gloves will be provided to all individuals involved in preparing and serving food.

**V. PROCEDURE:**

A. Gloves are effective in preventing cross-contamination of health care workers' hands and help reduce transmission of bacteria and viruses to food if they are used appropriately. Timely hand hygiene is performed using the method of hand rubbing or hand hygiene. Employees will:

1. Wash their hands thoroughly before and after wearing or changing gloves.
2. Choose the correct size gloves to fit their hands from the variety of glove sizes available.
3. Change disposable gloves between tasks and not wear them continuously. If raw meats, poultry, or seafood is handled with gloves on, employees will not handle ready-to-eat and cooked foods without washing their hands and changing their gloves.
4. Change gloves as soon as possible if the integrity of the glove is compromised (e.g. punctured or torn). Compliment this change with hand hygiene.
5. Change gloves if they are in continual use for 4 hours, even if performing a single task.
6. Change gloves after sneezing, coughing, or touching hair, face or apron.
7. Gloves should not be used for nonfood tasks, including cleaning, changing out milk, juice, pans & condiments, etc.
8. Wear gloves with handling ready to eat foods such as salad bar items, fruits, sandwiches, cooked foods, deli meats, cheeses, breads, and ice.
9. Gloves should not be reused. Gloves are single use/single task items. Glove decontamination and reprocessing is not recommended and should be avoided.
10. Gloves are not to be stored in pockets for later use.

B. Gloves are located in racks at hand sinks and near workstations.

\* The use of gloves when not indicated represents a waste of resources, does not contribute to a reduction of cross-contamination, and may increase the risk of germ transmission.

**VI. REFERENCES:** National Restaurant Association Educational Foundation 2017, ServSafe Manager 7<sup>th</sup> Edition; World Health Organization (2009 August); Glove use information leaflet. [who.int/gpsc/5may/Glove Use Information Leaflet.pdf](http://who.int/gpsc/5may/Glove%20Use%20Information%20Leaflet.pdf).

**VII. COLLABORATED WITH:** Director of Nursing, Director of Dietary Services, FMHF Contract Dietitian, Infection Control Nurse.

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- VIII. RESCISSIONS:** MSH FMHF-19, *Dietary Glove Use for FMHF* dated February 1, 2016.
- IX. DISTRIBUTION:** All MSH FMHF policy manuals.
- X. ANNUAL REVIEW AND AUTHORIZATION:** This policy is subject to annual review and authorization for use by either the Administrator or the Medical Director with written documentation of the review per M.C.A. § 307-106-330.
- XI. FOLLOW-UP RESPONSIBILITY:** Infection Control Nurse.
- XII. ATTACHMENTS:** For internal use only.
- A. Techniques for donning and removing non-sterile examination gloves

Signatures:

Kyle Fouts  
Hospital Administrator

Thomas Gray, MD  
Medical Director