

Safety Awareness**Double gloving while working with radioactive isotopes****What is double gloving?**

Wearing two layers of gloves is termed as double gloving. This is standard Safe Operating Procedure while working with radioactive isotopes.

**Why double gloving is important?**

Double gloving significantly reduces the perforation rates of the glove in contact with the skin.

Double gloving is mandated by the University Radiation Safety Procedure to provide adequate protection when working with radionuclides. In addition to double-gloving, when handling milli-curie (> 37 MBq) amounts of high intensity emitters such as ¹²⁵I or ¹³¹I, it is important to change the outer glove frequently.

If you are handling a highly toxic or a dangerously toxic chemical, but still need good dexterity to perform the work, wearing latex over nitrile gloves will provide adequate protection without impeding dexterity.

Double gloving is also useful if the outer glove becomes contaminated. It may then be removed to dry waste and the user still has the protection of the inner glove.

Please note: where finger badges are worn, they should be under the inner layer of glove, directly in contact with skin.

Further information

For detailed information on glove selection please contact local area Radiation Safety Officer or the Work Environment Group at whs@anu.edu.au

Take down: 31st March, 2017

Contact: whs@anu.edu.au for additional information

Staff and Students are reminded to report incidents to their supervisor and/or through the HORUS/ISIS online incident notification systems.

Authorised by: Work Environment Group