

# HANDS-ON INFECTION CONTROL NEWSLETTER DAY HOSPITALS

June 2019

WINTER NEWSLETTER

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## Important Dates

### SRACA WA Conference 2019

24 August 2019

### World Sepsis Day

13 September 2019

### Antibiotic Awareness Week

11 – 17 November 2019

### ACIPC Conference 2019

18–20 November 2019, Perth

## Updates

### Release of the 2019 Australian Guidelines for the Prevention and Control of Infection in Healthcare (2019) | NHMRC

NHMRC has updated the guidelines in partnership with the Australian Commission on Safety and Quality in Health Care using an interactive 'living guidelines' model.

## Quick Links

NSQHS Standards (second edition) | Safety and Quality

Hand Hygiene Australia Learning Modules

<https://www.hha.org.au/online-learning/complete-a-module>

## Choosing the Right Glove

With the rise in awareness of latex and chemical allergy, and the increase in powder glove bans due to powder-related issues for both patient and healthcare provider, synthetic and powder-free medical gloves continue to gain in favor. Each glove offers unique advantages but, at the same time, each of them comes with a certain amount of compromise in terms of barrier protection, durability, sensitivity, comfort, and cost. No single glove provides the "perfect" solution for all applications and it is nearly impossible for a healthcare facility to standardise on a single type of glove material to meet all their needs.

Ansell have produced a useful guide to the different properties of different types of gloves which may help decision making.

[https://protection.ansell.com.au/rs/615-TNW-071/images/Clinical-Bulletin\\_A-Guide-To-Medical-Glove-Selection.pdf?mkt\\_tok=eyJpIjoiWIRZd1pUZG1OVFUxT0dJNCIsInQiOiIxWVJEUjEUNGNQNVJ6UHZaR3VybWxTcXZKSkrM1RkbWRKZTA3cEpIdGdMOGVhRDQ3Y3gwVWtYNmpQeXltVlo1Y25XOTZWWVF2b2pmZEF4aFlMNnBBT2Nla041ZjNjZUhWRllsU2NONVNUOHBE9RSTNQTnBqZTFBOXRqd3JucFQ2XC8ifQ%3D%3D](https://protection.ansell.com.au/rs/615-TNW-071/images/Clinical-Bulletin_A-Guide-To-Medical-Glove-Selection.pdf?mkt_tok=eyJpIjoiWIRZd1pUZG1OVFUxT0dJNCIsInQiOiIxWVJEUjEUNGNQNVJ6UHZaR3VybWxTcXZKSkrM1RkbWRKZTA3cEpIdGdMOGVhRDQ3Y3gwVWtYNmpQeXltVlo1Y25XOTZWWVF2b2pmZEF4aFlMNnBBT2Nla041ZjNjZUhWRllsU2NONVNUOHBE9RSTNQTnBqZTFBOXRqd3JucFQ2XC8ifQ%3D%3D)

## Air Handling and Water System Review for Western Australia

As part of the Implementation of the Public Health Act (2016), the Department of Health (DoH) must review the *Health (Air-Handling and Water Systems) Regulations 1994* which are designed to protect the public from the spread of air-borne disease such as Legionnaire's disease.

As part of the review of the Air-Handling Regulations, the DoH must determine whether this public health risk must continue to be regulated under the framework provided by the Public Health Act, or whether the risk can be effectively managed through an alternative approach such as a guideline or other legislation.

The DoH has prepared an options paper entitled "*Air-Handling and water systems review*" examining 4 options for WA. The discussion paper can be downloaded from the consultation webpage:

[https://consultation.health.wa.gov.au/environmental-health-directorate/air-handling\\_and\\_water\\_systems\\_regulation\\_review/](https://consultation.health.wa.gov.au/environmental-health-directorate/air-handling_and_water_systems_regulation_review/)

You are invited to read through the discussion paper and submit feedback on the online survey page.

**All submissions are due by Friday 1 July 2019.**

## AS/NZS 4187:2014

The amendment to AS/NZS 4187:2014 has now been released. It is available free via this link and free to download [SAI Global Store - Industry Standards, Training & Legislation](#)

## Nelly Leon Sterilisation Advisor



In February we introduced you to our newest team member Nelly Leon. Since commencing with Hands-On, Nelly has been busy reviewing our sterilising service risk assessment and workplace skills assessment tools, undertaking on-site visits to educate and support technicians, and providing advice on all aspects of RMD reprocessing. Nelly is a fount of knowledge so please do not hesitate to call our office if you require assistance.

### 2019 Influenza Update

- Currently, influenza and influenza-like illness (ILI) activity are high for this time of year compared to previous years
- Clinical severity for the season to date, as measured through the proportion of patients admitted directly to ICU, and deaths attributed to influenza, is low
- There is no indication of the potential impact on society of the 2019 season at this time
- The majority of confirmed influenza cases reported nationally were influenza A (86%). However, the proportion of influenza B nationally has been increasing each week since early May

### Contact Us

Suite 1/120 – 122 Lake Street

Perth WA 6000

Tel: 61-8-9227 1132

Fax: 61-8-9227 1134

Email:

[info@handsoninfectioncontrol.com.au](mailto:info@handsoninfectioncontrol.com.au)

[www.handsoninfectioncontrol.com.au](http://www.handsoninfectioncontrol.com.au)

## Hard Surface Disinfectants

The TGA has advised that the way hard surface disinfectants are regulated has changed.

*"Hard surface disinfectants have recently been down-regulated as a result of the reform activities endorsed by Government from the Future Regulation of Low Risk Products Review. This included:*

- *Downregulating Registered disinfectants entries on the Australian Register of Therapeutic Goods to become Listed entries, and Listed disinfectants are now exempt, and*
- *Pre-market review of listed disinfectants will only be conducted on new ingredients (that are active) and/or new specific claims".*

**Further information can be found at the following TGA web page links:**

<https://www.tga.gov.au/disinfectants-sterilants>

<https://www.tga.gov.au/consultation/consultation-review-therapeutic-goods-order-54-standards-disinfectants-and-associated-guidance>

<https://www.tga.gov.au/disinfectants-sterilants-regulation-basics>

## Double Gloving – Why?

Gloves are an essential form of PPE during surgical procedures. They act as barriers to pathogen transmission and reduces the risk of occupational exposure to blood and body fluids. Wearing double gloves, preferably with a puncture indicator system, may provide more protection than single gloving.

A study reported in Infection Control Today found that:

- Glove barrier failure is common during surgical procedures with perforation rates up to 61% reported. Double gloving reduces the risk of exposure by up to 87% when the outer glove is punctured;
- Sharps injuries occur in up to 15% of operations. Double gloving reduced the amount of blood on a solid suture needle by up to 95% when passing through two glove layers;
- Perforations in single layer gloves is often unnoticed. Using a two colour indicator system makes it much easier to detect a perforation.

Research on the protective effects of double gloving provides compelling evidence that double gloves should be used for all surgical procedures,

<https://www.infectioncontroltoday.com/personal-protective-equipment/double-gloving-myth-versus-fact>

## Professional Development

**ADEB Health and Aged Care Conference: Healthcare Design and Build for Safety, Mobility and Infection Control.**

**Perth 5 July 2019 / Sydney 18 July 2019 / Adelaide 26 July 2019.**

[www.adebhealthandaged.com](http://www.adebhealthandaged.com)

**SRACA WA Inc State Conference**

**Duxton Hotel Saturday 24 August 2019 8.30am**

<http://www.sracawa.org.au/>

## INFECTION PREVENTION

THE RESPONSIBILITY IS IN EVERYONES HANDS!



**HANDS-ON INFECTION CONTROL**