

CLOSED DONNING TECHNIQUE FOR STERILE SURGICAL GLOVES

AS RECOMMENDED BY ACORN¹:

Surgical sterile gloves should be donned by the surgical scrub team in a manner that follows aseptic principal so that the sterile field is maintained.

ACORN does not support the practice flipping items onto the sterile field.

The wearing of powder-free or latex-free gloves to protect Health Care Workers and patients is also supported.

Donning Steps

1 With hands remaining inside the surgical gown, take the sterile gloves from the circulating assistant. Remember to be careful and not touch the external wrapper of the gloves when taking the gloves and to keep hands inside the cuff at all times during the gowning and gloving procedure. Using cuff covered hands place the gloves in the paper wrapper on a sterile surface. Place the glove paper in front of you like a book.



2 With gown still covering your fingers, use your right hand to remove the left glove. Hold your left hand palm up, fingers straight. Lay the glove on your left wrist, and grip the cuff with your left thumb. The cuff fingers should be pointing towards the left elbow.

3 Place your right thumb inside the top cuff edge. Make a fist with your right hand and stretch the glove over your left fingertips.

4 Keeping your left fingers straight, pull down the sleeve and glove until your hands fills the glove. Now with your right cuffed hand pull the left glove cuff over your gown sleeve. Do not worry about completing this until you have donned the right glove.



5 Repeat the above procedure to don the other glove. That is: use your gloved left hand to lay the right glove on your right wrist.

6 Slide your left thumb inside the top of the cuff, make a fist, and stretch.

7 Pull down the sleeve and glove together. Ensure you use all four fingers to pull on the glove cuff. Do not pull on the glove palm.

8 Now with both hands covered you can attend to finer adjustment of both gloves without risk of contamination. Gently pull the glove sleeves down to remove gown folds. To prevent glove/gown separation ensure the following:

- your gown sleeves are long enough not to restrict movement and drag the gown cuff up away from the glove;
- that there is gown cuff present down to the base of your palm – adequate grip area for the glove to grip the gown; and
- that you have no glove cuff folds at the end of the glove.

ACORN recommends double gloving. A second pair of gloves is donned in the same manner as above.

References

1. 2014 – 2015 ACORN Standards for Perioperative Nursing

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