

Operations Division Occupational Health and Safety

Field Visit Report

OHS Case ID: **02881PJM495**  
Field Visit no: **02881PJM496** Visit Date: **2020-MAY-08** Field Visit Type: **INITIAL**

Workplace Identification: **GRAND RIVER HOSPITAL** Notice ID:  
**835 KING ST W, KITCHENER, ON, CANADA N2G 1G3**

Telephone: **(519) 742-3611** JHSC Status: **Active** Work Force #: **1000** Completed %:

Persons Contacted: **SEE NARRATIVE.**  
Visit Purpose: **COMPLAINT INVESTIGATION**  
Visit Location: **TELECONFERENCE**  
Visit Summary: **ORDERS ISSUED. SEE NARRATIVE.**

**Detailed Narrative:**

The field visit took place over the phone and the following people were spoken with:  
Marc Simard, Director Employee Health and Wellness; Marina Vujsic, Worker Co-Chair on JHSC; Anne Rocchi: Director Occupational Health and Safety; Carol Gunsch: President ONA

The reason for this visit is to respond to a complaint made to the Ministry of Labour, Training, and Skills Development. The complaint includes the following:

- The workplace recently implemented changes with respect to PPE. New type of gloves were introduced for medical personnel. The new gloves "are not fit for medical use". The old gloves are currently on site but not being made available to staff.
- JHSC was not consulted on these changes.

Inspector Findings:

Due to projected shortages of gloves, which were used pre-pandemic (SensaCare ICE nitrile gloves), the employer initiated procurement of new types of gloves to complement / replace existing. Reportedly the procurement initiative started at the end of March 2020 with new gloves being put in circulation in mid of April and introduced to other units as needed. New gloves by brand name of Sure Touch were observed by workers in various departments (i.e. oncology, in-patient surgery unit, etc.). Reportedly the caution statement printed on box states "NOT FOR MEDICAL USE".

Employer acknowledges they are aware of the note on box but states that additional information was obtained from manufacturer (McCordick Glove & Safety) indicating that SureTouch Nitrile Gloves models 3003PFL, 3003PFM, 3003PFS, 3003PFXL are licenced by Health Canada in accordance with Medical Device Regulations, section 36 (copy provided to MLTSD).

In addition to the licence the employer obtained specification for nitrile gloves from manufacturer Shandong

Recipient	Inspector Data	Worker Representative
Name _____	<b>ZELJKO ILINCIC</b> OCCUPATIONAL HEALTH & SAFETY INSPECTOR PROVINCIAL OFFENCES OFFICER 4273 King St. E, #300, Kitchener, ON N2P 2E9 MOLOHSWaterloo@ontario.ca Tel: (519) 239-8054 Fax: (519) 883-5694	Name _____
Title _____		Title _____
Signature _____	Signature _____	Signature _____

You are required under the Occupational Health and Safety Act to post a copy of this report in a conspicuous place at the workplace and provide a copy to the health and safety representative or the joint health and safety committee if any. Failure to comply with an order, decision or requirement of an inspector is an offence under Section 66 of the Occupational Health and Safety Act. You have the right to appeal any order or decision within 30 days of the date of the order issued and to request suspension of the order or decision by filing your appeal and request in writing on the appropriate forms with the Ontario Labour Relations Board, 505 University Ave., 2nd Floor, Toronto, Ontario M5G 2P1. You may also contact the Board by phone at (416) 326-7500 or 1-877-339-3335 (toll free), mail or by website at <http://www.olrb.gov.on.ca/english/homepage.htm> for more information.

The Government of Ontario wants to hear from you. You can provide feedback on this visit at 1-888-745-8888

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Intco Medical Products Co., Ltd. (copy provided to MLTSD).

Employer and JHSC acknowledges that "new" gloves were not suitable type of gloves to provide appropriate level of protection for the workers caring for patients in the oncology unit.

As per employer statement the steps were taken to start recall of all "new" gloves from all medical units and majority of the workplace until proper assessment could be made to establish areas where gloves would be suitable for the type of work being done. The employer was reminded that JHSC must be consulted during the assessment process.

The employer states that changes in measures to protect workers from exposure to a biological agent were not reviewed in consultation with JHSC prior to being introduced. – Order issued.

This field visit was prepared in consultation with MLTSD infection control consultant.

In addition the workplace parties indicated they have measures and procedures in place addressing the following:

- All workers were provided with information and instructions on COVID-19 symptoms when COVID-19 outbreak started.
- Everyone entering hospital (employees and public) is actively screened by a person upon entering.
- Frequent spot cleaning is in effect. Ongoing efforts to sanitize the high-touch surfaces in department in response to outbreak.
- Workers are provided with information and instructions on hand hygiene, how to wash hands, and use of hand sanitizers.

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**Order(s) /Requirement(s) Issued To:**

To: **GRAND RIVER HOSPITAL CORPORATION** Org/Ind Role **Owner**

Mailing Address:  
**835 KING ST W, KITCHENER, ON, CA N2G 1G3**

**Order(s) /Requirement(s) Description:**  
 You are required to comply with the order(s) /requirement(s) by the dates listed below.

No	Type Code	ActReg	Year	Sec.	Sub Sec.	Clause	Text of Order/Requirement	Comply by Date
1	Time	OHS	1990				The employer, in cooperation with JHSC, shall review and revise measures and procedures that may affect the health and safety of a worker with respect to implementing the change in personal protective equipment (gloves). At the time of the visit it was established there was no consultation with JHSC.	2020-MAY-09
02881PJMS497	67	1993	9	3	b			

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