

Ref. No: 711
From: Public
Date: 12/05/23
Subject: Hospital Pharmacy

REQUEST & RESPONSE

Name of Hospital / Trust:

Whiston Hospital, St Helens and Knowsley Teaching Hospitals NHS Trust

Department:

Pharmacy

Pharmacy Contact Information:

Amy Rogers (Chief Technician / Production Manager) 0151 430 1749

A) Is compounding outsourced to an external provider in your region / city?

Yes – go to question A1)	For some items, majority of compounding is done in-house.
No – go to question B)	

A1) What is the name of the external provider doing compounding preparation?

Baxter, ITH, B Braun

A2) What is the location of the external provider doing chemotherapy compounding?

Norfolk, Stockport, London

B) What manufacturing / compounding work is currently being performed by pharmacists at your Hospital / Trust?

TPN – adult and neonatal, Cytotoxics, Monoclonal Antibodies, CIVA's, Clinical Trials.

C) What level / grade of cleanroom do you run and how many of them do you have?

5 x Grade D cleanrooms housing 1 x Grade A isolators in each.

C1) What size of unit do you currently run (square footage)?

195m²

C2) What is the number of staff in this unit?

13

C3) Do you currently run at your full capacity?

Yes

C4) If no, what % of capacity you're currently running?

N/A

D) Do you provide services to any other hospital pharmacies?

Yes

D1) If yes, please specify which other hospitals you service:

Warrington and Halton Hospitals NHS Trust

E) How many days per week do you do compounding work?

5

F) Approximately, how many compounding's do you do each day in your facility?

Number of compounding's per day: 65

G) Approximately, how many pairs of gloves do you use per day for pharmacy compounding work in your facility? (including both under- and over-gloves)

Number of under-gloves per day (pairs): 12

Number of over-gloves per day (pairs): 9

G1) What proportion (%) of these are sterile gloves?

100%

G2) Who is your current gloves provider(s)?

Kimtech (under gloves) Berner (over gloves)

G3) What types of gloves do you use during compounding? Please put % for all relevant options.

	Chemotherapy	Parenteral nutritional	Other – please specify:
Sterile exam gloves			
Non-sterile exam gloves	100%	100%	For set up and 1 st stage transfer sanitisation
Sterile PPE (Personal Protective Equipment) gloves	100%	100%	As an underglove in clean rooms
Sterile Surgical gloves (medical device)	100%	100%	As an overglove on isolators

G4) What material are the majority of the sterile PPE / surgical gloves made of when used in pharmacy? Please put % for all relevant options.

Nitrile %	20%
Polychloroprene %	
Polyisoprene %	
Natural rubber latex %	80%
Other, please state: %	

G5) What material is the packaging of your sterile gloves?

Plastic	X
Paper	

H) How do you currently purchase your hospital pharmacy gloves?

NHS SC	X
Directly from supplier	
3rd Party provider / distributor (eg. Bunzl)	
Other	

I) How frequently do you place orders and is this your preferred frequency?

Stock level is assessed every week and an order is placed accordingly – approximately ordered once every 2-3 weeks.

J) What local / national guidelines / accreditation / regulations / governing bodies do you adhere to?

MHRA – Rules and Guidance for Pharmaceutical Manufacturers and Distributors. Quality Assurance of Aseptic Preparation Services Standards EL 97

K) When validating a new sterile PPE / surgical glove, do you have a specific protocol/evaluation to follow?

Yes	X
No	

L) Who is involved in the validation process and what criteria do you follow (please indicate position / role, process, and time frames)?

Chief Technician and Senior Technician. Gloves are worn throughout the transfer sanitisation process and then this is validated, worn for a session and then Finger Dabs carried out. They are evaluated by the staff based on good fit, comfort, whether they restrict movement, durability, how well they stay on an isolator sleeve cuff, how much coverage of the wrist, whether ink runs off the packaging during transfer, quality by the end of the session – thinness, discoloration etc and ease of use.

M) Which of these requirements apply for a sterile PPE / surgical glove in your facility? (please tick all relevant options):

Maximum liquid particle count level	
Specific outer packaging requirements	
Plastic inner-wrap	
Be able to stay on isolator glove port for certain amount of time	X
Withstand certain amount of alcohol disinfections	X
Chemicals / chemotherapy agents breakthrough time results	X
Certified for use for a certain clean room grade	X
We have other requirements (add them....)	
No requirements are specified	

N) Which of these features of a sterile PPE / surgical glove would add value in your current practice? Please tick all relevant options.

Good fit, feel and comfort	X
Durability	X
Easy to open sterile barrier	X
Double gloving	X
Puncture detection	X
Anti-slip cuff (stays on gown)	X
Low endotoxin level	X
Other features add value	

O) How often are gloves changed by operators working with compounding? Please state in relevant minutes.

Over-gloves: Sessionally or if they tear / become compromised

Under-gloves: Sessionally or if they tear / become compromised

P) What safety guidelines / recommendations does the Hospital / Trust currently follow?

The Trust follows the guidance set out in The Health & Safety at Work etc. Act 1974. It has its own policies relating to Health and Safety, PPE assessments, latex management and Control of Substances Hazardous to Health (COSHH).