



Designation: D6977 – 19 (Reapproved 2023)

Standard Specification for Polychloroprene Examination Gloves for Medical Application¹

This standard is issued under the fixed designation D6977; the number immediately following the designation indicates the year of original adoption or, in the case of revision, the year of last revision. A number in parentheses indicates the year of last reapproval. A superscript epsilon (ϵ) indicates an editorial change since the last revision or reapproval.

1. Scope

1.1 This specification provides certain requirements for polychloroprene rubber gloves used in conducting medical examinations and diagnostic and therapeutic procedures.

1.2 This specification covers polychloroprene rubber examination gloves that fit either hand, paired gloves, and gloves by size. It also provides for packaged sterile or non-sterile or bulk non-sterile polychloroprene rubber examination gloves.

1.3 This specification is similar to that of [D3578](#) Standard Specification for Rubber Examination Gloves, and [D6319](#) Standard Specification for Nitrile Examination Gloves for Medical Applications.

1.4 *This international standard was developed in accordance with internationally recognized principles on standardization established in the Decision on Principles for the Development of International Standards, Guides and Recommendations issued by the World Trade Organization Technical Barriers to Trade (TBT) Committee.*

2. Referenced Documents

2.1 ASTM Standards:²

[D412](#) Test Methods for Vulcanized Rubber and Thermoplastic Elastomers—Tension

[D573](#) Test Method for Rubber—Deterioration in an Air Oven

[D3578](#) Specification for Rubber Examination Gloves

[D3767](#) Practice for Rubber—Measurement of Dimensions

[D5151](#) Test Method for Detection of Holes in Medical Gloves

[D6124](#) Test Method for Residual Powder on Medical Gloves

[D6319](#) Specification for Nitrile Examination Gloves for Medical Application

¹ This specification is under the jurisdiction of ASTM Committee D11 on Rubber and Rubber-like Materials and is the direct responsibility of Subcommittee D11.40 on Consumer Rubber Products.

Current edition approved Sept. 1, 2023. Published September 2023. Originally approved in 2004. Last previous edition approved in 2019 as D6977 – 19. DOI: 10.1520/D6977-19R23.

² For referenced ASTM standards, visit the ASTM website, www.astm.org, or contact ASTM Customer Service at service@astm.org. For *Annual Book of ASTM Standards* volume information, refer to the standard's Document Summary page on the ASTM website.

[D6355](#) Test Method for Human Repeat Insult Patch Testing of Medical Gloves

2.2 ISO Standard:

[ISO 2859](#) Sampling Procedures and Tables for Inspection by Attributes³

2.3 Other Document:

[U.S. Pharmacopeia](#)⁴

3. Significance and Use

3.1 This specification is intended as a referee procedure for evaluating the performance and safety of polychloroprene rubber examination gloves. It is not intended for testing prior to routine lot release. The safe and proper use of polychloroprene rubber examination gloves is beyond the scope of this specification.

4. Material

4.1 Any polychloroprene rubber compound that produces examination gloves that meet the requirements of this specification are allowed.

4.2 A lubricant that meets the current requirements of the *U.S. Pharmacopoeia* for absorbable dusting powder may be applied to the glove. Other lubricants may be used if their safety and efficacy have been previously established.

4.3 The inside and outside surface of the polychloroprene rubber examination gloves shall be free of talc.

5. Performance Requirements

5.1 Gloves, sampled in accordance with Section 6, shall meet the following referee performance requirements:

5.1.1 Products comply with requirements for sterility when tested in accordance with 7.2 when labeled sterile,

5.1.2 Shall comply with freedom from holes when tested in accordance with 7.3,

5.1.3 Have consistent physical dimensions in accordance with 7.4,

5.1.4 Have acceptable physical property characteristics in accordance with 7.5,

³ Available from American National Standards Institute (ANSI), 25 W. 43rd St., 4th Floor, New York, NY 10036.

⁴ *U.S. Pharmacopeia*, latest edition, Mack Publishing Co., Easton, PA 19175.