White paper analyzes changes in dental hygiene education

Research distributed through support from Johnson & Johnson Consumer

Zoo primate takes dental care seriously

Female hamadryas baboon seen using bristle from old broom to clean her teeth

Baboons at Paignton Zoo in Devon, United Kingdom, have learned to floss. A female hamadryas baboon was seen using a bristle from an old broom to clean her teeth.

Paignton Zoo volunteer Liz Chisholm, who took the photos, said: "As I passed Baboon Rock I noticed that the baboons had been given broom heads to play with.” Some young baboons were seen sweeping with them, possibly mimicking the actions of their keepers.

"One of the older baboons was inspecting her broom head. Then I saw her pull out a bristle, examine it, pull it taut between both hands and very deliberately start to floss her teeth. She did it several times, both top and bottom set. I only saw the one baboon behaving like this, but she had several pupils, as she was being watched by other baboons.” Curator of Mammals Neil Bemment explained. "The baboon is called Georgia, a baboon at a zoo in the United Kingdom, taught herself to floss. She's not alone: macaques in Thailand also have been seen flossing — using strands of human hair. Photo/Liz Chisholm, Paignton Zoo"

(Source: Paignton Zoo)
Barrier protection critical with any dental-care glove

While caring for their patients, dental and health care professionals are constantly exposed to bodily fluids that may carry viruses and other infectious agents. It is therefore critical that the gloves these professionals provide are the best possible barrier protection.

Many types of gloves are available today, but it is important to know that not all gloves have the same barrier capability, depending on the type of material used. For example, natural rubber latex gloves have long been acknowledged for their very effective barrier properties, while non-latex gloves, such as vinyl (polyvinyl chloride), have inferior barrier capability as shown by numerous studies.

Other synthetic gloves, such as nitrile and polysoprene, perform much better than vinyl but are more costly, especially polysoprene gloves. Using gloves with inferior barrier capability could expose both the patient and user to harmful infections.

Quality, safety top priorities

Malaysia is the world’s largest medical gloves exporter (latex and nitrile). Both quality and users’ safety are of top priority to the nation’s glove industry. To this end, a quality certification program (the Standard Malaysian Gloves, or the SMG) has currently been formulated for latex examination gloves.

All SMG-certified gloves must comply with stringent technical specifications to ensure the gloves are high in barrier effectiveness, low in protein and low in allergy risks, in addition to having excellent comfort, fit and durability — qualities that manufacturers of many synthetic gloves are trying to replicate.

Natural, sustainable resource

Latex gloves are green products, derived from a natural and sustainable resource, and are environmentally friendly. (You can learn more online by visiting www.smg-gloves.com or www.latexglove.info).

The use of low-protein, powder-free gloves has been demonstrated by many independent hospital studies to markedly reduce the incidence of latex sensitization and allergic reactions in workplaces.

More importantly, latex allergic individuals donning non-latex gloves can now work alongside their coworkers wearing the improved low-protein gloves without any heightened allergy concern. However, for latex-allergic individuals, it is still important they use appropriate non-latex gloves, such as quality nitrile and polysoprene gloves, that provide them with effective barrier protection.

Extensive array of brand, prices

Selecting the right gloves should be an educated consideration to enhance safety of both patients and users. For decades, gloves made in Malaysia have been synonymous with quality and excellence, and they are widely available in an extensive array of brands, features and prices.

They can be sourced either factory direct (www.mrepc.com/traede and click “medical devices”) or from established dental product distributors in the United States.

(Source: Malaysian Rubber Export Promotion Council)
Work with confidence

Malaysia:
Your #1 Source For Quality Medical Gloves
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Malaysia is the largest source for U.S. imports of natural and synthetic rubber gloves as reported in tariff and trade data by the U.S. Department of Commerce and the U.S. International Trade Commission
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- Resorbable Hydrogel Carrier Resists Irrigation To Keep Graft In Place
- Rapid Mixing With Either Autogenous Blood Or Included Buffer Solution

Case Study
Photos: Dr. Nick Shumaker

Failed Implant Removed  Large Buccal Defect Grafted  New Host Bone Formation  20 Week X-Ray Implant Placed

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