

Effect of Lanolin- and Vitamin E-enriched Cyntek Powder-Free Latex Gloves on Skin Health

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Cyntek Powder-Free Latex Exam Gloves^{*} are single-use, lotion-coated gloves for dental procedures. An inner coating of lanolin and vitamin E acts as a moisturizer to help soothe and soften skin. The outer surface is designed with a micro-roughened texture to ensure an effective grip for most operating conditions. The gloves are “First Touch” enhanced, which means they are manufactured, examined and packaged with zero skin contact. The gloves are green with a citrus-mint scent and are packaged 100 per dispenser box in ambidextrous sizes XS, S, M, L, and XL.

Purpose – This study evaluated skin condition and comfort of *Cyntek Powder-Free Latex Exam Gloves* as compared to other glove products during daily dental office routines.

Clinical Evaluation Protocol

- The group of 50 clinical consultants included 12 dentists, 14 dental hygienists, and 24 dental assistants.
- Participants were instructed to continue using their current soap and moisturizer, if any, during the study period.
- Participants utilized *Cyntek Gloves* exclusively for 25 to 30 days after responding to a pre-study questionnaire.
- Responses to standardized questionnaires addressing skin-care product use and skin condition before and after the use of *Cyntek Gloves* were analyzed.

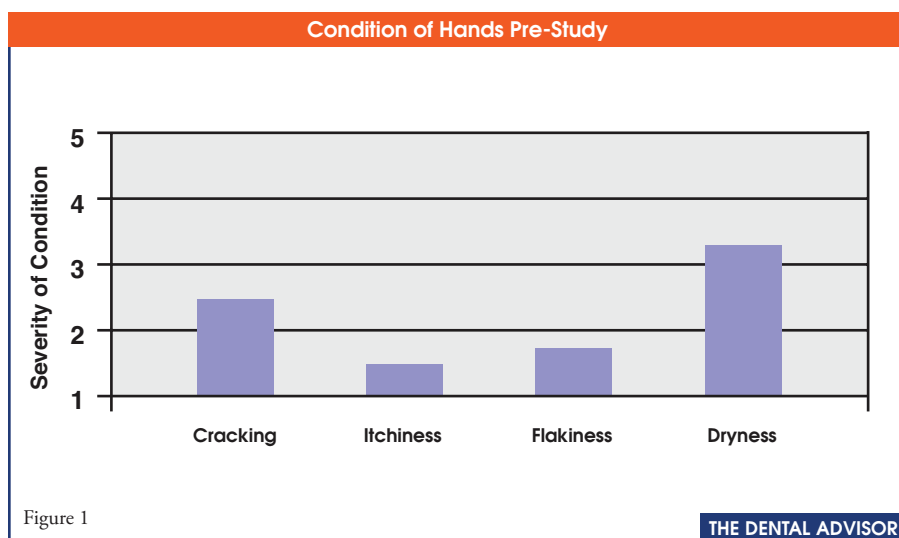
Pre-Study Results

- Table 1 and Figure 1 show the participants’ perceived hand skin condition and treatments being used before the test period. Nearly two-thirds (64%) of the participants reported the routine use of a moisturizer for their hand care before the study period. Forty-six of the 50 participants reported that dryness was a problem prior to the study. “Cracking” of skin was also a common problem for 50% of the evaluators (Figure 1), while “flakiness” or “itchiness” were much less common conditions. Ratings of hand softness and overall hand skin condition in the pre-study period were similar (Table 1).



- Participants reported the presence of four undesirable skin conditions (dryness, flakiness, itchiness and cracking) before the study in order to compare their skin condition after the use of *Cyntek Gloves*. Seventy-four percent experienced dryness before the study and 47% indicated cracking (Table 2).

Condition (1=poor, 2=fair, 3=good, 4=very good, 5=excellent)	Rating
Hand softness	2.6
Overall skin condition	2.9



Condition	Percentage
Dryness	74%
Cracking	47%
Flakiness	24%
Itchiness	19%

Post-Study Results

- Sixty-four percent of participants reported that the use of *Cyntek Gloves* improved their skin condition (Table 3).

Yes	64%
No	36%

- Participants estimated improvement in four undesirable skin conditions upon completion of the study (Table 4).

	Slight Improvement	Moderate Improvement	Major Improvement
Dryness	21%	59%	20%
Flakiness	42%	42%	16%
Itchiness	11%	45%	44%
Cracking	5%	68%	27%

- The majority of participants who saw improvement in their hand skin condition indicated that it occurred within three weeks of initiation of glove use (Table 5). Table 6 shows the average ratings given by the 50 participants for overall skin condition of hands before and after using *Cyntek Powder-Free Latex Exam Gloves*.

Time	Percentage
One week	39%
Two weeks	33%
Three weeks	15%
Four weeks	0%
Other	13%

Condition (1=poor, 2=fair, 3=good, 4=very good, 5=excellent)	Rating
Pre-study	2.9
Post-study	3.4

Conclusions – This study involving 50 clinical consultants indicated that individuals who practice routine hand washing and wearing gloves as a part of infection-control standards often experience hand skin problems. The study results showed that a majority of the 50 participants reported having some hand skin problems before the test period. After using *Cyntek Powder-Free Latex Exam Gloves* for the 25- to 30-day test period, participants reported that a majority of problems with dryness and cracking of skin were improved along with, but to a lesser degree, skin flakiness and itchiness. *Cyntek Powder-Free Latex Exam Gloves* were an effective option for daily dental office use when either maintenance or improvement of good hand skin condition was desired.

Editors' Note: Cyntek Powder-Free Latex Exam Gloves were evaluated clinically in 2008, and the complete article is featured in THE DENTAL ADVISOR, Vol. 25, No. 06, July-August 2008 (www.dentaladvisor.com).

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Footnote:

* *Cyntek Powder-Free Latex Exam Gloves*

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