

OHS ALERT



Incident /Hazard

Disposable Gloves and Phenol/
Chloroform

Date

What happened?

In routine laboratory inspections it has been noticed that disposable nitrile gloves are being used as part of the PPE for phenol-chloroform extractions. The Ansell Chemical Glove Guide (<http://www.ansellasiapacific.com/chemical-glove-guide>) rates Nitrile gloves in the lowest category rating i.e. Colour when using Trizol (which has phenol as an ingredient).

There have been instances where the nitrile gloves disintegrate and causes skin burns to the hands.

The most effective glove combination to use for this application is a combination of a reusable laminated barrier glove (to provide protection) used in conjunction with a disposal glove such as nitrile (to provide dexterity).