

Medical Clothing: Beneficial Applications for Health And Well-being

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Abstracts

Health care authorities around the world face the dual challenge of preventing illnesses and finding new ways of treating them in a cost effective manner. Medical protective clothing plays a crucial part in infection prevention and control, particularly for health care workers who are especially vulnerable to the threats of infection. However, the development of such clothing which is inexpensive, protective and comfortable to wear is considered to be a significant challenge and this, in turn, is driving innovations in textile technology. On the other hand, there is demand for higher levels of patient care and many people are looking for more convenient ways of managing their health. As such, several companies have used the latest advances in wearable technology to develop garments which can monitor the health of the wearer. Indeed, the use of such products is becoming increasingly widespread, and many experts believe that wearable technology could radically change the way health care is delivered. This report provides a wealth of information on various types of medical protective clothing, its properties, and its role in infection prevention and control. Also, the report analyses the latest developments in medical protective clothing, and in clothing and accessories for monitoring health and well-being. Furthermore, the report identifies key market trends and presents an outlook for the future.

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MEDICAL PROTECTIVE CLOTHING

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Protecting the wearer from exposure to the body fluids of a patient, and to chemicals and hazardous substances

Conveying a professional and authoritative image

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WORKERS

Highly protective garments and accessories

Traditional medical uniforms

Gowns and coveralls

Gowns

Coveralls

Scrubs

Surgical scrubs
Non-surgical scrubs
Standard issue scrubs
Full body suits
Laboratory coats
Accessories worn by health care workers
Gloves
Footwear covers
Independent sleeves
Safety glasses and face shields
Surgical masks
Disposable plastic aprons
Scrub hats

ESSENTIAL PROPERTIES OF MEDICAL PROTECTIVE CLOTHING

Barrier protection
Antimicrobial action
Comfort
Practical design
Compatibility with other items of PPE
Appropriate size and fit
Ease of donning and removal
Durability
Resistance to undesirable effects
Resistance to linting
Flame resistance
Static resistance
Stain resistance
Wrinkle resistance
Aesthetic appeal
Colours used for medical protective clothing
Patterns used for medical protective clothing

FABRICS USED IN MEDICAL PROTECTIVE CLOTHING

Cotton
Bamboo
Polyester

Fibre blends
High performance fabrics for reusable surgical wear
Nonwovens
Spunlace
Spunbond/meltblown/spunbond (SMS) polypropylene
Polyethylene

REGULATION OF MEDICAL PROTECTIVE CLOTHING

Compliance with ppe regulations

INNOVATIONS IN FABRICS, CLOTHING AND ACCESSORIES FOR

THE PREVENTION AND CONTROL OF INFECTION

Ahlstrom: VaporCool
Aksigen: ARMA
Cardinal Health: SmartGown
Halyard Health: Aero Blue*
The Hohenstein Institute and wfk – Institut f?r Angewandte Forschung: reusable surgical gowns for medical staff
Johns Hopkins University and DuPont: Ebola protection suit
Lakeland Industries: ChemMax
Lifethreads: Contego
Operating Room Innovations: Solofit
Sneeve: disposable antimicrobial sleeve for children
Strategic Partners: new generation of medical apparel with antimicrobial and fluid barrier properties

CLOTHING AND ACCESSORIES FOR HEALTH MONITORING AND

WELL-BEING

Bomedus: Lower Back
Drexel University: new belly band to monitor uterine contractions and foetal heart rate in pregnant women
EMPA and Schiller: ECG belt
Esp?re Healthcare: DermaSilk
Fraunhofer IIS and Fraunhofer ISC: pressure monitoring stocking for use by diabetes

patients

Fraunhofer IPK and Fraunhofer IZM: CareJack orthosis

Freudenberg Performance Materials: SensorBelt

Institute of Textiles and Clothing: clothing for the relief of eczema

Johns Hopkins University: shirt which delivers shocks to patients experiencing serious heart problems

Nottingham Trent University: gloves for sufferers of Raynaud's phenomenon

Schoeller Textil: iLoad

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Zoll: LifeVest

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