

# Physician **MEMO**

**To** | All Medical Staff  
**From** | Bruce Walley, MD - SVP - Medical Staff Services  
Lisa Allen, RN - Nurse Manager 2<sup>nd</sup> General GI  
**Date** | January 2, 2012  
**Re** | **Latex Allergy Precautions**

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## **What is the main news?**

The white latex allergy precaution carts will no longer be used except in select areas at FMC as of January 1, 2012. All necessary latex free supplies are available on all units and department and can be accessed when needed.

## **What do I need to do?**

Communication of latex allergy, order processing in Net Access and all other precautions remain the same. Latex free surgical gloves, Foley catheters, and urinary drain bags will be in red bins in your supply areas for use when needed.

## **Why is it important for me to know this?**

Latex allergy has become a significant problem for a growing number of people. The hospital can be a dangerous place for these patients because of the high use of supplies that contain latex or rubber. By making available non latex supplies in patient care areas and eliminating the cart we can provide the care needed in a timelier, safe manner that is consistent with our other isolation precautions