

Policy on PVC and PVdC

Our position

Coloplast aims to develop environmentally optimized medical devices. A documented and considered environmental materials assessment is always a part of our product development process.

The plastics PVC (polyvinyl chloride) and PVdC (polyvinyl dichloride) are commonly used in medical devices. PVC and PVdC contain chlorine and additives such as softeners (like phthalates in PVC), stabilizers and fillers which pose a risk of harmful effects to human health and the environment.

In Coloplast, we closely follow developments in polymer research and we remain constantly alert in search of new materials for our products that are technically and medically sound, cost effective, and environmentally responsible. We recognize that PVC and PVdC pose an environmental concern, and we therefore prefer other types of plastic polymers. Coloplast welcomes and supports an international ban against the use of phthalates in medical devices.

Our commitment

Based on our position, Coloplast is committed to:

- Using chlorine free polymers in our new products, and use PVC or PVdC only when their technical properties are strictly necessary for the product performance
- Modify existing products, and replace PVC and PVdC with other substances in our components when possible
- Proactively shares our knowledge regarding the use and reduction of phthalates in medical devices and clearly inform our customers regarding the content of phthalates in our products.
- Report regularly on our progress in limiting the use of phthalates.

The overall responsibility for this policy lies with Executive Vice President Allan Rasmussen, a member of Executive Management. The operational responsibility lies in Corp. Quality & Environment with the Director for Environment, Health & Safety Development.