

# Ultraray Protective Garment Guide



## Immediate and Regular Inspection:

Please inspect your garment thoroughly upon receipt and at regular intervals. When aprons are first received and before they are put into service they should be tested for integrity by fluoroscopy or any other suitable method, recommended or mandated by your radiation safety officer. In addition, they should be tested annually (or when mandated by your radiation safety officer) to ensure their radiation shielding integrity.

## IMPROPER STORAGE OR IMPROPER CARE AND HANDLING OF PROTECTIVE GARMENTS MAY DAMAGE INTERIOR LAYERS CAUSING CRACKS, HOLES, OR OTHER DAMAGE.

### Proper Storage:

Aprons should be properly stored at all times.

- Hang on an approved apron/skirt hanger.
- Hang on an apron rack specifically designed for the purpose of storing radiation protection aprons.
- Do not hang on hooks.
- For transportation purposes, roll in a tube shape and carry in an appropriate carry bag.
- When storing, always ensure Velcro closures are lined up correctly; failure to do so may cause damage to fabric, stitching, binding, or embroidery.

### Proper Care and Handling:

- When wearing (as when storing), always ensure Velcro is lined up correctly; failure to do so may cause damage to fabric, bindings, or embroidery. Also take care to avoid catching exposed Velcro in gauze, bandages etc. as this will reduce the efficacy of the Velcro.
- Avoid sitting while wearing your lead apron. Cracks in lead /stretching can develop from repeated sitting in garment.
- Protective aprons should not be folded, creased, or bunched up as this may cause a stress point in the protective material.
- Do not pile protective products.
- Care should be taken to avoid sharp objects, edges, or corners, as they can cause unseen damage to the protective material.
- Avoid extended exposure to extreme temperatures, hot or cold. If apron is subjected to extreme temperatures, it should be left un-disturbed until it reaches an ambient temperature. In hot weather conditions it is recommended that the apron be transported in the trunk of your car. In winter conditions it is recommended that the apron remain inside the vehicle.

### Proper Cleaning:

#### Common Soil and Radiology Related Stains

- Do not immerse protective garments in any fluid. Soiled aprons can be cleaned with cold water and an environmentally friendly mild detergent. (Simple Green, Oxyclean, Dawn) Dilute detergent with a little water. Clean stains or entire garment one section at a time (10"x10"). Apply solution to section, let stand for a few minutes, scrub area with a soft bristle brush using a circular motion, blot moisture with clean cloth. Rinse area with clean water and blot again. Rinse and blot again. \*It is very important to rinse each area very well until there is no soap residue left on garment to prevent soap ring. Let garment air dry. Stubborn stains may need more than one application and/or a less diluted mixture. **Do not saturate garment.**
- A cleaning solution specifically formulated for lead aprons such as Scrubbles lead apron cleaner is also recommended for soil and stains such as barium, blood and other common radiology related stains. Follow manufacturer's instructions.
- Current research indicates that cleaning the apron before disinfection with wipes will prevent the build up of biofilm. Using wipes alone will not effectively remove surface biofilm. Soil must first be removed before disinfection /sanitation can take place.

### Disinfecting:

Lead apron surfaces can be cleaned using non-abrasive, non-alcoholic, mild cleansing wipes containing no bleach such as those produced by Ecolab, Caviwipes, or Sanicloth. Clorox Healthcare Hydrogen Peroxide Cleaner Disinfecting Wipes have also been tested as safe to use for surface cleaning of lead aprons. Scrub small area of apron with the wipe using a circular overlapping motion. Continue until you have wiped down the entire apron.

- Follow manufacturer's instructions for use.
- Do not saturate the garment with product to the point that it penetrates the lead core. Contact with the lead core will cause puckering, stretching and premature cracking.
- Allow to dry completely before storing.

**\*We highly recommend the use of the 2 phase cleaning procedure: Clean first to prevent build up of biofilm. Disinfect after cleaning with the use of approved disinfecting wipe.**

**Visit our blog to view our apron cleaning video.**