

PVC Med  
ALLIANCE





## PVC IN HEALTHCARE

PVC is extensively used throughout the healthcare sector including in:

- Blood and plasma transfusion sets
- Catheters and cannulae
- Blood bags
- Containers for intravenous solution
- Endotracheal tubing
- Feeding and other tubing
- Seamless flooring, ceiling and wall coverings



## ESSENTIAL TO HEALTHCARE

For over 60 years, polyvinyl chloride (PVC) has remained an essential material across the healthcare sector. Also commonly known as vinyl, it has enhanced healthcare facilities in countless ways and enabled incredible innovation in medical devices.



*Vinyl flooring has a low total cost of ownership.*



*PVC medical devices are fit for recycling.*

## REVOLUTIONISING MEDICAL DEVICES

PVC medical devices have given patients and healthcare professionals access to innovative medical applications for screening, diagnosis, treatment and care. In the 1960s, PVC revolutionised healthcare with single-use devices that eliminated dangerous cross-contamination between patients. Healthcare professionals worldwide rely on PVC because of its optimal performance, high quality, strong safety record and affordability.

## ENHANCING MEDICAL FACILITIES

Medical facilities need building materials with excellent durability, chemical resistance, low maintenance costs and affordability. PVC meets these demands and more. In flooring, ceiling and wall coverings, PVC reduces the need for cleaning and prevents the spread of infection with its smooth hygienic surface. Not only does it last for up to 20 years with intensive use, but PVC also offers the best value for money. With endless design options (including signage, zone boundaries and even art) PVC makes hospitals more comfortable, energising and welcoming for all.

## RECYCLING MORE AND BETTER

Recently significant progress has been made to collect, recycle and recover products to support the circular economy, including in the healthcare sector. Since PVC is a very recyclable material, it has a great deal of circular potential. In the UK, the VinylPlus funded RecoMed scheme has shown how safely and easily PVC medical devices can be collected and recycled. RecoMed was inspired by a programme in Australia where over 100 hospitals collect and recycle PVC medical devices.





*Unbreakable and light PVC bags replaced containers of fragile and heavy glass in the 1950s.*



*Single-use medical devices revolutionised healthcare in the 1960s by eliminating dangerous cross-contamination between patients.*

**THE MANY BENEFICIAL PROPERTIES OF PVC,  
ESPECIALLY ITS UNSURPASSED SOFTNESS,  
ARE STILL MAINTAINED IN PVC WITHOUT  
PHTHALATES OF CONCERN**

## **CONTINUOUS INNOVATION**

DEHP has long been the preferred plasticiser for flexible PVC medical devices. Thanks to industry's continuous innovation and investment, a range of alternative plasticisers are now available for all medical applications. This allows healthcare professionals and patients to benefit from PVC's unique properties without using phthalates of concern.



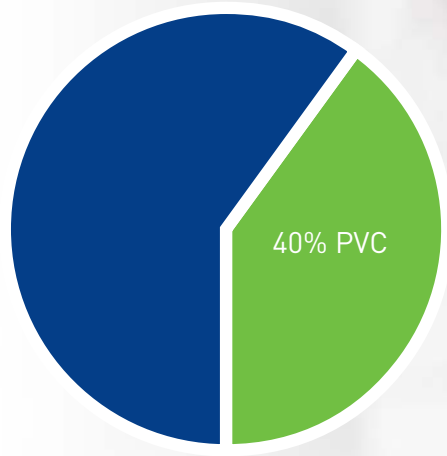
## ABOUT US

PVC Med Alliance is the ECVM's platform for the PVC value chain in health-care. We are engaging proactively in dialogue with all relevant stakeholders – from health authorities over hospital staff to recyclers. We share information, experience and expertise at medical conferences and medical fairs, and host roundtable discussions with interested stakeholders. We are also very active on social media.



**ECVM** (The European Council of Vinyl Manufacturers - [www.pvc.org](http://www.pvc.org)) is the organisation representing the six leading European PVC resin manufacturers, accounting for about 75% of the PVC resins produced in Europe.

A founding member of VinylPlus®, **ECVM** is committed to sustainable development, and to address and promote health, safety and environmental best practices over the PVC life cycle.



**DID YOU KNOW THAT 40% OF ALL PLASTICS-BASED MEDICAL DEVICES ARE MADE FROM PVC?**



## 10 reasons to choose PVC in healthcare

- 1 HIGH SAFETY**  
PVC has been safely used in disposable medical device applications for over 60 years. European Pharmacopoeia monographs apply to PVC for use in disposable applications.
- 2 EXTENSIVE DIVERSITY**  
PVC is used in a wide variety of medical applications, from soft tubing to rigid containers. As a construction material, it is also used in flooring, ceiling wall and coverings in the healthcare environment.
- 3 WIDEST RANGE OF BENEFITS**  
PVC's unique technical properties include biocompatibility, anti-kinking, excellent transparency, chemical resistance and easy sterilisation.
- 4 LOW COST**  
PVC makes access to quality and safe healthcare affordable for all.
- 5 CONTINUOUS INNOVATION**  
Industry research and innovation have progressively made a wide range of plasticisers available for all medical applications.
- 6 RECYCLABILITY**  
PVC medical devices can be recycled safely and offer high-quality recycle for the circular economy.
- 7 COMPATIBILITY**  
PVC is compatible with virtually all pharmaceutical products on the market today.
- 8 ENDLESS DESIGN POSSIBILITIES**  
Vinyl gives architects endless design options for hospital interiors, making them more welcoming for all.
- 9 LOW-CARBON MATERIAL**  
PVC has a low carbon footprint since it is made from 57% salt and only 43% oil or natural gas.
- 10 EASY TO PROCESS**  
PVC is easy to process with all common plastic converting technologies.

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Renolit  
BASF  
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Colorite  
Inovyn  
Ercros  
Shin-Etsu/Cires  
Vestolit  
Vinnolit  
Vynova  
European Council of Vinyl Manufacturers  
Vinyl Council of Australia  
Southern African Vinyls Association



**PVC Med Alliance**  
Avenue E. van Nieuwenhuysse 4  
B-1160 Brussels, Belgium

[www.pvcmed.org](http://www.pvcmed.org)  
[info@pvcmed.org](mailto:info@pvcmed.org)

 [@pvcmed](https://twitter.com/pvcmed)