

SC6: COSMETIC PIERCING (inc. EAR/NOSE PIERCING WITHOUT GUN)

DEFINITIONS

Body Piercing

Body piercing is when a hole is made in the skin and a piece of 'jewellery' is placed within the hole.

Beading

Steel beads or similar objects are inserted under the skin to mould or shape the skin.

BioSkin Jetting

A microprobe is used to separate the wrinkle from the underlying skin, upon removal from the skin the tissues are stimulated.

Microdermal Anchors (single point piercing)

Single point piercings carried out with ordinary piercing needle that places a post under the skin which a variety of accessories can be screwed into.

TERMS AND CONDITIONS

1. PIERCERS

The Licence holder must ensure that body piercers have undergone a 2-year apprenticeship/training programme with an experienced piercer before being permitted to carry out piercings at the premises. The Licence holder may provide training/apprenticeships at premises for new piercers if they ensure trainees work under the supervision of an experienced piercer. Records should be kept in relation to any training/apprenticeship in place.

Until such time as an externally verified body piercing qualification is offered, all piercers will be required to demonstrate knowledge of infection control to the satisfaction of the Authorised Officer. Where Council is concerned that a piercer does not have adequate infection control knowledge the piercer may be required to complete a questionnaire on infection control. Any piercer failing to satisfactorily complete the questionnaire will be required to undertake further training to improve knowledge.

2. AGE

Clients must be over the age of 18 for all types of body piercing other than ear, nose, Lip (labaret), eyebrow or navel.

Anyone under the age of 16 who wants ear, nose, lip, eyebrow or navel piercing must be accompanied by a parent or guardian who must sign the appropriate consent forms.

3. CLIENT CONSULTATION

A full client consultation must be carried out prior to any treatment. Proof of age must be included in consultation. A relevant medical history in relation to the treatment being requested and full explanation of any possible contra-indications must also be included.

4. VISUAL ASSESSMENT

An assessment of the condition of the area to be pierced must be carried out prior to commencing treatment. Where necessary notes/diagrams should be made regarding conditions, areas not to be treated.

Piercing must not be carried out on or within 10cms of an infected area of skin, a rash, cut or other wound.

5. RECORD KEEPING

Records must be kept for every client.

The records must include details of medical history checks and steps taken to verify the age of the client including their date of birth and the type of identification provided (where appropriate).

Records may be stored on paper or electronically. Records must be made available upon request from an Authorised Officer of the Council, such records must be produced within 3 days of any such request.

6. PERSONAL HYGIENE

Persons carrying out treatments must ensure that:-

- their hands are kept clean and washed immediately prior to carrying out a treatment,
- they maintain a high degree of personal cleanliness and wear suitable, clean and appropriate protective clothing,
- they do not smoke or consume food or drink during the course of a treatment.

Persons shall not administer treatments whilst afflicted by either a known or suspected ailment or being a carrier of a disease likely to be transmitted during treatment.

Persons carrying out treatments shall ensure that any open sores, cuts, boils, broken skin or other open wounds are effectively covered with waterproof impermeable dressings. If such cuts are on the hands gloves shall be worn over the waterproof dressings.

7. PROTECTIVE CLOTHING

(a) All staff must wear clean clothing when piercing. If clothing becomes soiled it must be changed prior to next client. It is recommended that disposable plastic aprons are worn during procedures to provide additional protection.

(b) Piercers (and anyone carrying out similar procedures) must wear disposable single use vinyl or non-latex gloves whilst carrying out the treatment. The integrity of the gloves must be checked throughout the treatment. New gloves must be worn for each client. Gloves must also be changed if there is a break in the treatment and non-sterile equipment is touched.

8. CLEANING AND STERILISATION

In addition to the cleaning and sterilisation requirements set out in Part II of the General Licence Conditions for all special treatment premises:-

(a) All surfaces that come into contact with staff equipment or clients must be disinfected daily.

(b) All needles/razors must be single use and disposable.

(c) Any surfaces used during treatments must be disinfected prior to each use.

(d) Any treatment chair/ couches must be disinfected after each client.

(e) Any equipment that is to be reused and has been contaminated with blood however small must be cleaned and sterilized.

9. BLOOD/BODILY FLUID SPILLAGE

There must be a procedure for dealing with blood spillages. All employees must be made aware of the procedure.

A spillage kit must be available for cleaning up blood or other bodily fluids. The kit must include: -

- Bucket with a tight-fitting lid.
- 'Non-sterile', unpowdered latex gloves or vinyl gloves.
- Disposable plastic aprons.
- Disposable paper towels.
- Disposable cloths.
- Clinical waste bag.
- Small container of general-purpose detergent.
- Hypochlorite solution (e.g. Household bleach or Milton) or Sodium Dichloroisocyanurate compound (NaDCC) (e.g. Presept, Sanichlor). To comply with COSHH regulations this compound should be stored in a lockable cupboard.
- Absorbent powder/granules e.g. Vernagel (absorbent crystals) to soak up the liquid content of the spillage. Alternatively, disposable paper towels can be used to soak up excess fluid.

10. SHARPS INJURY

There must be a procedure for dealing with needle/ sharps injuries. All employees must be made aware of the procedure.

11. USE OF ANAESTHETICS

Only operators who have successfully completed an appropriate course on use of topical anaesthetics will be permitted to use them. Evidence of the qualification must be available onsite. The use of anaesthetic injections is prohibited.

12. AFTERCARE

Appropriate aftercare advice must be provided following each treatment. This must include information on actions to take if any adverse conditions occur. Where possible this should be given in written form for the client to take away.

13. JEWELLERY

All jewellery which may come into contact with broken skin or mucosa membranes must be sterile.

All jewellery must be of a suitable grade e.g. surgical stainless steel, solid 14K or 18K gold, niobium, titanium, platinum, or dense low porosity plastic. This is to minimise the risk of allergic reaction, harbouring of bacteria or adhesion to newly formed skin. Grade 316 stainless steel does not comply with the Dangerous Substances and Preparations (Nickel) (Safety) Regulations 2000) and is not to be used.

14. CIEH TOOLKIT

The Chartered Institute of Environmental Health in conjunction with Public Health England and the Tattoo and Piercing Industry Union have issued a Toolkit detailing safe practice with regard to hygienically undertaking tattoos and skin piercing. It is expected that practitioners adhere to the requirements and recommendation contained within this document. The document can be accessed via the CIEH webpage at <http://www.cieh.org/policy/default.aspx?id=47706>

NOTES

Hepatitis B Vaccinations

There are no vaccine for Hepatitis C or HIV therefore robust infection control practices must be in place at all times. However, it is also strongly recommended that all body piercers receive a full course of Hepatitis B vaccine. Data from the Health Protection Agency states where the client is infected with Hepatitis B and is classed as being highly infected, the risk of Hepatitis B infection following an injury that penetrates the skin is 1 person in 3.

Hepatitis vaccinations must be paid for by the employer. Where a piercer refuses to get vaccinated it is recommended that the employer requires them to sign a disclaimer form.

Records should be kept that demonstrate the vaccination status of all piercers working at the premises.