

SC5: EAR AND NOSE PIERCING (USING GUN)

DEFINITIONS

Ear Piercing

Ear piercing refers only to the piercing of the lower ear lobe and/or upper ear cartilage piercing.

Ear Piercing Gun

Refers to a device, whether single use or disposable, designed specifically for piercing ears.

Nose Piercing

Refers only to the piercing of nasal cavity walls.

Nose Piercing Gun

Refers to a device, whether single use or disposable, designed specifically for the purpose and is capable of piercing the nasal cavity wall with the nose stud without the need for a clasp/butterfly clip.

TERMS AND CONDITIONS

1. Employees carrying out piercings

Only suitably qualified persons may carry out ear and nose piercing using gun or similar methods. Qualifications must be from an awarding organisation regulated by Ofqual (<https://www.gov.uk/find-a-regulated-qualification>) or be from an approved training provider as agreed by the Council in writing.

2. AGE RESTRICTIONS

Anyone under the age of 16 who wants their ear or nose pierced 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 and areas not to be treated.

Piercing must not be carried out if the area to be pierced, nose or ear, has signs of infection, rashes, cuts 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). This record must be signed by the client/parent/guardian (as appropriate) as a declaration of agreement to proceeding with the treatment following the explanation of any associated risks.

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. INFECTION CONTROL

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 piercers must wear disposable gloves that must be disposed of after each client.
- (b) All work surfaces used in connection with the piercing must be cleaned and disinfected after each client.
- (c) The client's skin must be cleaned prior to piercing using a solution containing alcohol or sanitising skin wipes.
- (d) Only pre-sterilised single use studs from undamaged packaging may be used.
- (e) Studs must be opened immediately prior to use in front of the client.

8. BLOOD/BODILY FLUID SPILLAGE

(a) 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.

9. SHARPS INJURY

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

10. CLEANING AND STERILISING OF EQUIPMENT

Reusable equipment must be cleaned and disinfected between each client. Any equipment that has been contaminated with blood however small must be cleaned and sterilised before it can be reused, where this is not possible the equipment must be safely disposed of.

For information on the level of disinfection required for different furniture and equipment see General Terms and Conditions, Part II, Item 23.

11. 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.

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.