

Infection prevention and control guidelines for hair, beauty, tattooing and skin penetration industries

Summary of key changes

Background

The *Infection prevention and control guidelines for hair, beauty, tattooing and skin penetration industries* (2019) replace the *Health guidelines for personal care and body art industries* (2004).

The guidelines help people in the hair, beauty, tattooing and skin penetration industries to comply with the *Public Health and Wellbeing Act 2008* (the Act) and the Public Health and Wellbeing Regulations 2009.

The guidelines are available at: <https://www2.health.vic.gov.au/public-health/infectious-diseases/personal-care-body-art-industries>

The major changes to the guidelines include the following:

- The name of the document has been changed to *Infection prevention and control guidelines for hair, beauty, tattooing and skin penetration industries* to better reflect the content and intent of the guidelines.
- The document has been restructured to group information provided under particular relevant topics. Each section is outlined in further detail below.
- There is a separate section with information about the general principles of infection prevention and control. Further procedure specific information, such as cleaning, disinfection and sterilisation requirements of equipment used, is provided separately.
- Appendices, such as audit tools or fact sheets, will no longer form part of the guidelines. These types of additional or supplementary documents will be drafted and/or updated as required and made available separately on the Department of Health and Human Services (DHHS) website.

The guidelines have been divided into six parts. Information provided in each section is outlined below.

Part A: Registering premises

This section provides information regarding:

- Which businesses are required to register with the local council, and the type of registration the business may be eligible for, that is, periodic or ongoing registration;
- Requirements, outlined in the Regulations, that proprietors or occupiers of premises must comply with while conducting their business;
- Other legislation that is relevant to the hair, beauty, tattooing and skin penetration industries, for example, the *Summary Offences Act 1966*;
- Premises requirements such as hand hygiene facilities, equipment reprocessing areas and record keeping.

Part B: Principles of infection prevention and control

This section provides information on how infections are spread and the general principles of infection prevention and control. These principles, usually referred to as 'standard precautions', are explained in further detail under the following topics:

- Hand hygiene;
- The use of personal protective equipment (PPE);
- The safe use and disposal of sharps;
- Aseptic non-touch technique;
- Appropriate handling and dispensing of products;
- Appropriate handling of linen;
- Waste management;
- Routine cleaning of premises;
- Reprocessing of reusable instruments and equipment.

Part C: Procedure-specific requirements

This section provides information about specific hair, beauty, tattooing and skin penetration procedures and specific health information relevant to the procedures. The types of procedures included have been updated to include more recently developed procedures or practices.

Cleaning and reprocessing requirements for equipment used is provided in this section. Procedure-specific information is provided under the following general headings.

- Hairdressing and barbering;
- Cosmetic application including eyelash tinting and spray tanning;
- Hair removal;
- Facials;
- Eyelash extensions;
- Manicure, pedicure and nail treatments;
- Dry needling and other therapeutic skin penetration procedures;
- Laser and intense pulsed light (cosmetic procedures and tattoo removal);
- Microdermabrasion, dermal-rolling and dermaplaning;
- Tattooing (including cosmetic tattooing);
- Body piercing and other forms of body modification;
- Colonic irrigation.

Some industry practices are not specifically covered in this section, and new treatments and practices continue to be developed. However, you should still be able to apply the general principles of infection prevention and control outlined in Part B for any practices not described in these guidelines.

Part D: Occupational health and safety

This section provides general information regarding occupational health and safety requirements for hair, beauty, tattooing and skin penetration industries, as well as, advice for the management of blood and body fluid exposures.

Part E: Glossary

The definitions of terms used throughout the guidelines.

Part F: Appendices

The appendices provide more detailed information about cleaning and reprocessing of reusable instruments, in particular those for that require sterilisation.