

Facials

Infection Prevention and Control Information for Operators

What is the Health Risk?

Instruments and equipment used for facial treatments may become contaminated with blood and/or body fluids carrying blood-borne infections such as hepatitis B, hepatitis C and HIV. Other infections, such as fungal or bacterial infections, may occur if equipment is not properly cleaned and disinfected.

You do not have to see blood or body fluids on instruments, equipment or surfaces for an infection to occur.

Protect Yourself

- Wash your hands well before and after each client. Use liquid soap under warm running water and then dry with a disposable paper towel.
- Wear single-use, disposable gloves for each client during extractions. Discard after each client.
- Wash hands before and after using gloves.
- Alcohol-based hand rubs can be used as an alternative to hand washing if hands are not visibly soiled.
- Throw away needles immediately after use into an approved sharps container labeled “biohazard.”
- Keep your vaccinations up-to-date:
 - Hepatitis B vaccine – 3 doses
 - Tetanus vaccine – every 10 years
 - Influenza vaccine – every year

Protect Your Clients

- Use only prepackaged, single-use, disposable, sterile needles for extractions.
- Single-use, disposable applicators must be used to dispense creams, lotions, and other skin care products if applied directly onto skin. “Double-dipping” is not permitted.
- Discard single-use disposable items (e.g. facial sponges, tissues, applicators, etc.) immediately after each client. Sponges cannot be adequately cleaned and disinfected due to their porous nature.
- Reusable instruments/equipment (e.g. comedone extractors, etc.) that come into direct contact with the client’s skin must be cleaned and then disinfected using an intermediate- or high-level disinfectant after each client. See **Disinfection of Instruments and Equipment** chart.
- Store multi-use instruments that have been cleaned and disinfected in a clean drawer or container with a lid to prevent contamination.

- The water in the facial steamer machine must be changed at least daily. Store the steamer reservoir empty and dry.
- Work surfaces (e.g. tables, headrest, etc.) must be cleaned and then disinfected using a low-level disinfectant after each client. See **Disinfection of Instruments and Equipment** chart.
- Towels, sheets and linens must be laundered after each client.
- Keep accidental blood exposure records on site for a minimum of one year, and on file for a minimum of five years. Records must include the following information:
 - First and last name of person exposed
 - Address and phone number of person exposed
 - First and last name of personal service worker involved
 - Date of injury
 - Site of injury
 - Circumstances surrounding incident
 - Action taken

For more information please contact the Infectious Disease Control Team at 519-663-5317 ext. 2330 or go to www.healthunit.com

Source:

Ontario Ministry of Health and Long-Term Care. (2009). *Infection prevention and control best practices for personal services settings*. Retrieved from http://www.health.gov.on.ca/english/providers/program/pubhealth/oph_standards/ophs/progstds/pdfs/pssp_2008.pdf

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