

# Personal Services and Public Health Issues

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## Topics of Discussion

- History, changes and revisions to the PSSP
- Enforcement and legislation
- Mycobacterium outbreaks
- Blood-borne pathogens
- Disinfectant / germicide research
- Tools of the trade and associated infections
- Piercing, tattooing and body modifications
- Cleaning, disinfecting and sterilizing
- Aesthetic concerns at the Spa
- Methyl Methacrylate

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## History of Personal Services

- To reduce and control spread of infectious disease
- Unofficial survey of personal services (ON/QU)
- Lack of appropriate information in Health Units
- Not widely taught in Universities
- No solid, reliable data in the first place
- Very new to industry / fairly new to Public Health
- Ministry of Health and Health Canada Documents
- Minimum hours of classroom and practical training required in many states in US
- Mandatory guidelines clarify inspection role

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## PSSP – Ontario, 1998

### Personal Services Settings Protocol

#### Infection Control Program

*In accordance with the  
 Mandatory Health Programs and Services Guidelines*

Ministry of Health  
 Public Health Branch  
 January 1998

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## Health Canada - 1999

Canada Communicable Disease Report  
ISSN 1472-7025  
 DATE OF PUBLICATION: JULY 1999  
 VOLUME 19(1)

Supplement

infection control guidelines

**Infection Prevention  
 and Control Practices  
 for Personal Services:  
 Tattooing, Ear/Body Piercing,  
 and Electrolysis**

Health Canada

Canada

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## By-laws - Licensing

- Strictest between Federal, Provincial, and Municipal should override when including by-laws (already considered in some health units)
- Licensing in Ontario – should be treated same as restaurants – approval required
- Only a few Health Units in Ontario seem to be licensing – in some cases only a one city by-law within the Health Unit

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## U.S.A. - Personal Services

- CDC infection control document from 1985
- Some states have mandatory training to allow a license to practice services
- Board of barbering and cosmetology
- “X” hours of classroom and practical application required
- Ear piercing guns banned in some states
- Cartilage piercing also banned in some states

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## What's New in Personal Services

- Revisions to PSSP / working group
- New sections and additions
- New information and research
- More infections being revealed
- Industry getting more involved
- Past, present and future concerns
- Controversial issues
- Re - Education, promotion and awareness must be required for all groups involved

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## What's New in PSSP

- More charts and tables
- Acupuncture section
- Ear **LOBE** piercing section
- Electrolysis - mandatory sterilization is no longer required
- The sink situation
- Hand hygiene
- Sterilization changes
- Minor tattoo changes

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## Acupuncture

- ...“but not limited to”... clause
- Needle manipulation not clear
- Ottawa document based on original PSSP
- Some other Health Units also enforcing
- Why a specific section was required
- *Mycobacterium abscessus* infections in Toronto brought to surface
- Acupuncture and T.C.M. seek regulation under the Regulated Health Professions act (RHPA)

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## “... but not limited to ...” (page 1 – applicability)

This protocol applies to any facility or person offering services where there is a risk exposure to blood, such as, **but not limited to**: hairdressing and barber shops, tattoo body piercing studios, electrolysis, and aesthetic clinics. The following guidelines comprise general recommendations for all personal service facilities and equipment. Requirements specific to each area of practice are presented in summarized formats following the general guidelines.

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## Must Be Sterilized

Table A:  
Classification for Methods of Disinfection/Sterilization\*

Classification	Definition	Method to be Used
Critical Items	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Items intended to penetrate the skin (used for an invasive procedure) and</li> <li>Items that hold sterile items.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Thorough <i>cleaning</i> followed by <i>sterilization</i> is required. Refer to Table 3 (page 24). <i>Note:</i> Some equipment must be supplied sterile and discarded following use; it cannot be adequately cleaned.</li> </ul>
Semi-critical	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Items that are not intended to but that may accidentally penetrate body surfaces and</li> <li>Items that come into contact with blood or body fluids.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Thorough <i>cleaning</i> followed by <i>intermediate or high level disinfection</i> is required. Refer to Table 1 (page 22) and Table 2 (page 23) for more detailed information.</li> </ul>
Non-critical	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Items that come in contact but do not penetrate intact</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Thorough <i>cleaning</i> followed by <i>low level disinfection</i> is</li> </ul>

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## Manipulation of needles

- Tattooing – manipulation by soldering and creating appropriate width
- Body piercing – manipulation by removing hub and fitting to size
- Micro pigmentation – manipulation same as tattooing
- Electrolysis – no manipulation clearly defined
- Acupuncture – is now defined as no manipulation (to clarify and avoid confusion)

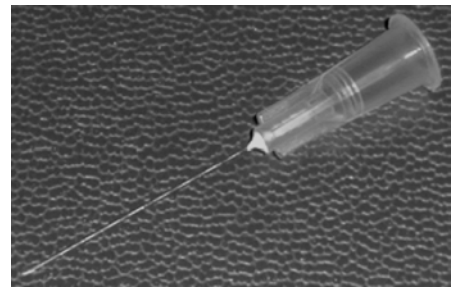
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## Needle Manipulation in Tattooing



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## Example of Needle Manipulation in Body Piercing



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## Must Be Sterile, Single-use, Disposable

### 7.2 Electrolysis

The heat produced by the current passing through an electrolysis needle will not cause the needle to become hot enough to be sterilized. The temperature is only likely to reach 70-80°C and the period that the current passes through the needle is too short (1-2 seconds only) for sterilization to occur.

#### 7.2.1 Additional Requirements to the General Guidelines

- PSWs must wash their hands prior to putting on single-use (non-sterile) gloves before each client as well as after removing the gloves.
- Single-use, sterile needles must be used and disposed of after each client. Needles must not be saved for re-use on the same client.

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## Ottawa Acupuncture Document



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## Proposed PSSP Acupuncture

### Acupuncturists

Needles used to pierce the skin in acupuncture treatments are critical items. These needles must be supplied pre-packaged and sterile, and discarded immediately after use since they cannot be adequately cleaned.

#### 7.7.1 Additional Requirements to the General Guidelines

- i. All acupuncture needles that pierce the skin must be supplied as pre-packaged, single-use, disposable and sterile. It is recommended the needles with plastic sheaths (guiding tube) be used for acupuncture treatments. Avoid removing the plastic sheath prior to insertion in client.
- ii. An individual needle must only be used on one site on the same client.
- iii. Seven-star or plum-blossom needles may be used on more than one site on the same client and then discarded. The reusable handles must be cleaned and disinfected using intermediate or high level disinfectant after each client.
- iv. Sterile needles must not be placed on or in any non-sterile environment (i.e. solution, cotton, foam, tray, etc.) before use. It is recommended needles be removed from sealed packages in view of clients.
- v. Care must be taken to touch only the upper part of the needle called the "handle" when removing from the packaging, particularly when the needles are banded together. Unused banded needles must be discarded after each client.
- vi. Instruments (i.e. tweezers, forceps) coming in contact with the needle(s) after insertion into client must be cleaned and disinfected with an intermediate or high level disinfectant between clients. Electro-stimulation metal clips/hooks must be thoroughly wiped using an intermediate or high level disinfectant after each client.
- vii. The acupuncturist must wash their hands before and after performing acupuncture treatment and before and after glove use. Hand sanitizers can be used when hands are not visible soiled.
- viii. It is recommended that single-use disposable gloves be worn. Gloves must

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## Acupuncture – Key Points

- Must be sterilized, single-use, and disposable immediately after use
- Many Asian manufacturers do not sterilize prior to shipping – package in bundles
- Consider devices used to manipulate sterile needles (Chimbong – Korean hand acupuncture)
- New section defines needles to be supplied as pre-packaged, sterile, single-use, disposable
- RHPA

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## Regulated Health Professions Act

Regulated Health Professions Act, 1991  
Loi de 1991 sur les professions de la santé réglementées

ONTARIO REGULATION 107/96

No Amendments

CONTROLLED ACTS

This Regulation is made in English only.

Forms of Energy

1. The following forms of energy are prescribed for the purpose of paragraph 7 of subsection 27 (2) of the Act:

1. Electricity for,

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## Emerging Issues - Mycobacteria

- More Mycobacteria infections being found
- Toronto is just one of latest to make health headlines
- Injectable cosmetics and pedicures
- Not all confirmed by culture
- *Mycobacterium abscessus* infections in Toronto (April to December, 2002)
- 29 people with skin infections (on going investigation)
- How link was made in Toronto

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## *Mycobacterium abscessus* Infections

- adrenal cortex extract injections (ACE)
- Infected 87 people in 16 states (1995, 1996)
- Unlicensed alternative medicine
- Can be taken orally as well
- Used for weight loss, fatigue, stress, easing withdrawal symptoms, depression, etc.
- FDA claims “never been shown to be effective for treating any medical condition”
- FDA recall 1996 (poor manufacturing standards)

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## *Mycobacterium abscessus* Infections

- New York City, January to June 2002
- 25 cases of skin infections from cosmetic injections (silicone, collagen, vitamin, etc)
- 12 required hospitalization (up to 51 days)
- 15 required invasive medical procedures, and antibiotic therapy (up to 6 months)
- 1 case had a bloodstream infection
- Wounds seeping fluid for months

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## *Mycobacterium abscessus* Infections

- Santiago, Chile July to December, 2002
- 51 cases of infection from 5 cosmetic establishments
- Mesotherapy injections to reduce obesity
- *Mycobacterium chelonae* also possible (same family of bacteria)
- All 51 cases had extensive scarring (up to 4 inches long)
- Abscesses drained and up to 8 months antibiotics

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## *Mycobacterium fortuitum* Pedicures

- *Mycobacterium fortuitum* infection first recorded in 1936 (vitamin injection)
- California pedicure establishment
- Largest outbreak of *Mycobacterium fortuitum* in the USA
- 110 people affected with various infections
- One case had 37 open sores for months
- Hard to treat – antibiotics not always successful
- 20/20 episode got a lot of attention

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## Mycobacteria Infection



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## Mycobacteria Infection



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## Lack of Infection Control



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## Lack of Infection Control



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## Not “Sanitizable” - Disposable



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## Disposable



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## Disposable



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## Clean and Disinfect Tub .....



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## .... And Screen



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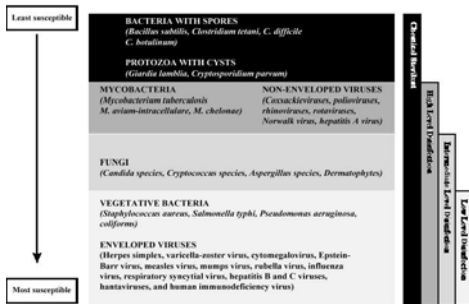
## Mycobacteria Infections

- The five Mycobacteria outbreaks just discussed were all from elective procedures for cosmetic purposes (Personal Services)
- Expect to see more infections from Mycobacteria
- Use of disinfectants in establishments using semi-critical instruments (usually covered by intermediate level disinfection) will need to be reviewed to address this situation
- Mycobacteria requires high level disinfection

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## Mycobacteria - Disinfection

Figure 1. Classes of Microorganisms Ranked in Descending Order from Least to Most Susceptible to Chemical Disinfectants



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## Why so many infections ?

- Lack of knowledge of basic infection control procedures by operators and manufacturers and suppliers
- Not using proper disinfectant solutions, etc.
- Improper products and devices used for service
- Operators are unaware of the diseases that can be transmitted
- Many carriers are not aware they are infected
- Chronic carriers and incubation periods not considered

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## Linkages – Incubation periods

- The link between developing blood-borne diseases and infections, and the event in which it was contracted has been difficult to establish
- 10 year incubation periods (or worse)
- Some carriers never get sick
- Lucky to find link in Mycobacteria infections
- Some cases in Toronto acupuncture outbreak didn't notice infection for five months

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## Blood-borne Pathogens

- Incubation periods and chronic carriers
- 1/3 of people with HIV in Quebec are unaware (recent study)
- Hepatitis B immunization
- Hepatitis C escalating
- Have to go beyond the big 3 (HIV, Hep B, Hep C) when considering infection control in Personal Services
- Many operators only using surface disinfectants

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## Hepatitis C - USA

- Over 4 million infected
- Over 3 million chronic carriers
- 35 000 new cases per year
- Virus can survive weeks on instruments
- 170 million cases worldwide
- Up to 70% chronic carriers
- Many showing no symptoms

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## Chapped Skin – Open Wound

### Healthcare Workers with Skin Abrasions May Be Vulnerable to HIV and Hepatitis C Virus

Posted on: 04/09/2003

NEW YORK, N.Y. - A recent case study in the April 2003 issue of the American Journal of Infection Control (AJIC) confirms that a healthcare worker with abraded skin contracted HIV and hepatitis C virus from an infected nursing home patient. This incident was substantiated by laboratory testing conducted at the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC).

The infected healthcare aide had no non-occupational risk factors for the infection, but was regularly exposed to the patient's body fluids. The worker reported wearing gloves while providing care for the patient, but stated that these gloves tore easily. Simultaneous transmission of HIV and hepatitis C virus has been reported due to needlestick injury and mucous membrane exposure, but this case suggests for the first time that healthcare employees are vulnerable to infection through unprotected chapped and abraded skin.

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## Disinfectant Dilemmas



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## Disinfectant Problems

- Improper use of disinfectant solutions is biggest PSSP problem
- Operators educated by suppliers and salespersons
- Chemical formulations clarified
- Roughly over 80% Quaternary ammonium compounds
- No pre-cleaning item, not making solution fresh, not immersing in solution, no contact time, etc.
- Convenience and 'ease of use' dictates use

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## Name That Disinfectant

### N - Alkyl

(60% C14, 30% C16, 5% C12, 5% C18)

**dimethyl ethylbenzyl  
ammonium chloride**

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## Low level disinfection

- Although the big 3 are easier to kill than Mycobacteria, low level disinfection is not effective
- Quaternary ammonium compounds are the most widely used by PSS operators
- A surface disinfectant must never be used to disinfect a disposable item (sharps, etc.)
- One container of low level disinfectant used for days – dirty items thrown in and retrieved when needed for client (actually believing that this is effective)

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## Barbicide

Hepatitis C and Beauty Salons

- Barbicide "Spiked" with Hepatitis C Virus
- 3 hours later - positive result
- 6 hours later - positive result
- 1 week later - positive result !!!

Gitlin, Nolte and Weiss  
Emory Medical School, Atlanta, 1995

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## Intermediate to High Level Disinfection

- Alcohol's optimum concentration is between 70% to 90%
- If solution is too pure (99% isopropyl alcohol, for example) it will not be effective in disinfection of item
- Denaturation requires water to be effective
- High level required for Mycobacteria
- Stay away from toxic chemicals (Glutaraldehydes, etc.)

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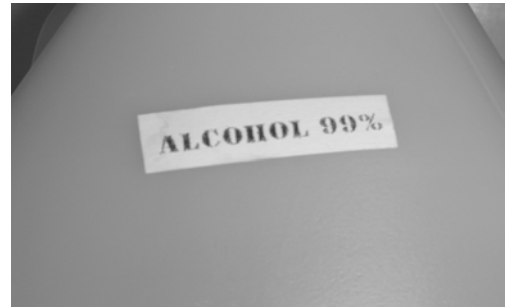


## Disinfectant Solutions



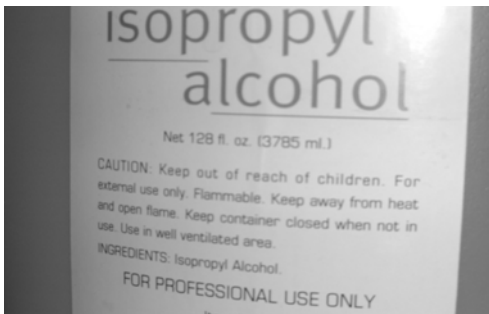
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70% to 90%



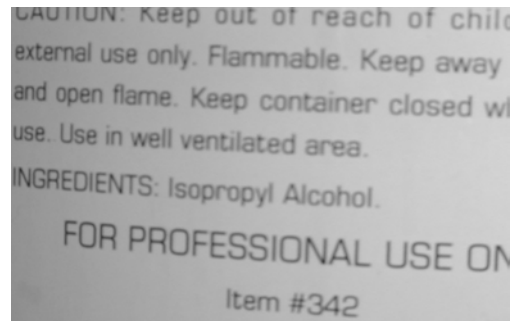
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70% to 90%



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70% to 90%



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## Levels of Disinfection

### Disinfectant Type and Action

Disinfectant	Action	Comments
<b>LOW LEVEL</b> The most common are quaternary ammonium compounds or "Quats". Some phenols and 3% hydrogen peroxide are included in this group.	Effective for non-critical items. Kills some bacteria and viruses e.g. staphylococcus, herpes, HIV, HCV, and HBV. Does not kill Mycobacterium tuberculosis, fungi, or spores.	DO NOT use to disinfect instruments. Always add to water according to the manufacturer's directions. Generally, not irritating to the practitioner.
<b>INTERMEDIATE LEVEL</b> 70% isopropyl alcohol, 5-25% household bleach, and iodophors e.g. iodine solutions are included in this group.	Effective for some semicritical items. Kills the microorganisms for low level disinfectants plus fungi but does not kill Mycobacterium tuberculosis, or spores.	Mostly non-toxic, but some iodophors and bleach burn skin and stain fabrics. Bleach mixture 1 part bleach and 9 parts water should be prepared every 24 hours. Household bleach is not a good choice for disinfection of metal instruments or equipment as corrosion is a problem.
<b>HIGH LEVEL</b> Common examples are 2% glutaraldehyde and 6% hydrogen peroxide (stronger than the 3% hydrogen peroxide found in the drug store).	Used for semicritical items and for critical items that cannot withstand heat sterilization. Kills all viruses, bacteria (including Mycobacterium tuberculosis) but does not kill spores. These products are able to sterilize objects with longer soaks according to times suggested by the manufacturer.	Glutaraldehyde is non-corrosive but is irritating to the skin, and vapors are toxic. NEVER use glutaraldehyde as a spray. Good ventilation is required when using this product. 6% hydrogen peroxide can be corrosive to some metals e.g. aluminum.

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## Health Canada's Drug Product Database

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# Information Mail outs



The Ottawa Ministry of Health has released a permit recently to Personal Services Piercing (PSP) under the Minimum Control Program of the Ministry Health Programs and Services Division. This permit allows any facility or person offering services where there is a risk of exposure to blood or other fluids, such as, but not limited to, tattooing, body art, piercings and piercing, can be done. It also allows for the use of piercing equipment, such as, but not limited to, piercing guns, needles, and other instruments used in the process of piercing.

The following equipment, personal protective equipment, and supplies are required for the use of a piercing gun:

### GENERAL MINIMUM REQUIREMENTS FOR EQUIPMENT, INSTRUMENTS AND SUPPLIES

1. Guns, articles including casing tips, tips, or other articles used by the PSP to pierce instruments and supplies used during a personal service, shall be removed and replaced from time to time, and shall be cleaned and disinfected with an appropriate food grade detergent after each use.
  - Before each use, the gun shall be cleaned and disinfected with an appropriate food grade detergent.
  - Guns shall be cleaned and disinfected after each use.
  - Guns shall be cleaned and disinfected after each use.
  - If a gun is used to pierce instruments and supplies, it must be replaced with a new one after each use.
2. The work area shall be kept clean and free of clutter.

# Piercing Problems - General

- Age restriction issue
- Driving services underground
- More piercing gun use
- One day body piercing courses
- After care is still a major concern
- Many secondary infections, disfigurements and surgeries required

# After Care



### AFTER CARE INFORMATION

This document has been prepared to provide information on how to care for your piercing while it is healing. A hair salon or jewellery store may have provided you with this information if your ear lobe was pierced using a piercing gun. Professional body piercers are required to provide you with more documentation on how to care for your specific piercing. Professional body piercers will interview you prior to piercing to determine if you have any allergies, whether the piercing is appropriate, and answer any of your questions. These are only basic minimum requirements.

**Never use a piercing gun for any part of the body other than the lobe of the ear.**

1. Always wash your hands thoroughly (immediately) before touching your jewellery or pierced area.
2. Soak or rinse the pierced area in warm water to loosen any dried matter (from discharge of bodily fluid). Any crusted matter (dead white blood cells) is part of normal healing may be removed with soap and warm water. A clean swab may be used if necessary. Preferably, a liquid antibacterial soap should be used to clean the jewellery while turning or rotating it, so that the soap is worked into the piercing. Rinse under running water, if possible, while turning or rotating (showering is preferable to bathing). Never use alcohol or hydrogen peroxide on your piercing, and beware of hair sprays, heavily perfumed soaps, shampoos, etc.
3. Never touch a pierced area or jewellery without washing hands first. It may lead to an infection. Ensure clean clothing, linen, pillowcases, etc., are always used.
4. Other than normal bathing and showering, or when washing piercing, keep the pierced area dry. Avoid swimming pools, hot tubs, lakes, rivers, etc., until your piercing is completely healed.

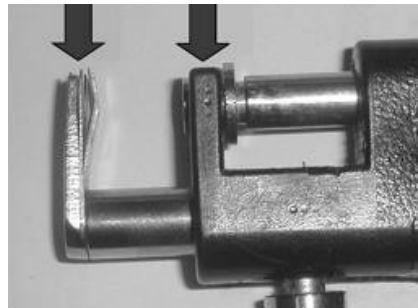
# Ear Lobe Piercing

- Re-defined section name
- Added note
- Cartilage mutilations
- *Pseudomonas* infections
- Illegal in some states
- Dermal punch
- Plastic jewellery to decrease allergic reactions to Nickel

# Banned ?



# Fixed Stud Adapter and Clasp Retainer

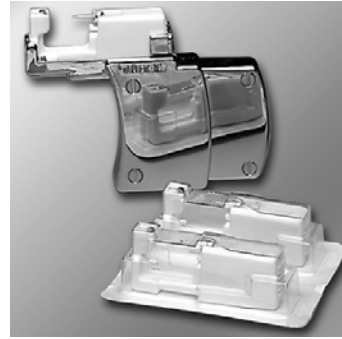


## Disposable parts



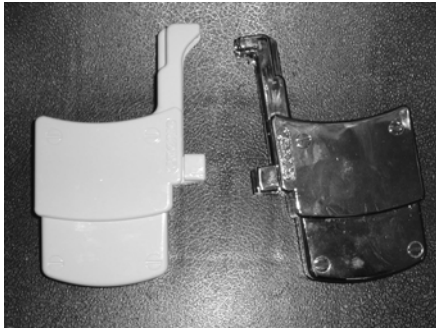
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## Disposable cartridge



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## Ear Lobe Piercing



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## Ear Lobe Piercing



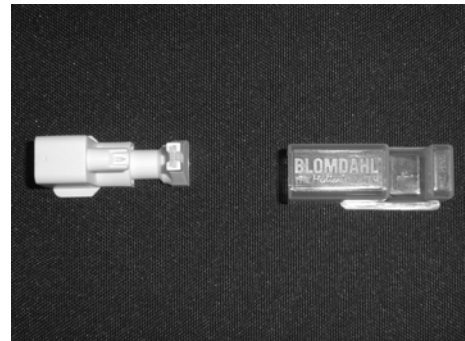
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## Piercing Guns



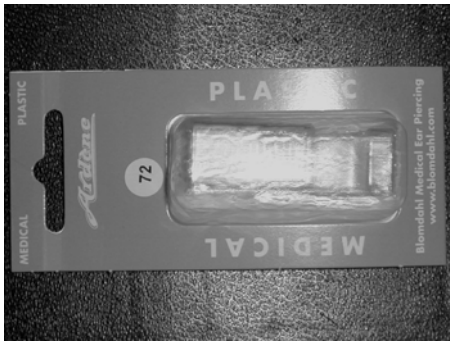
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## Disposable Cartridge



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## Medical Plastic - Earrings



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## Medical Plastic - Earrings

nyhet\*

Golden

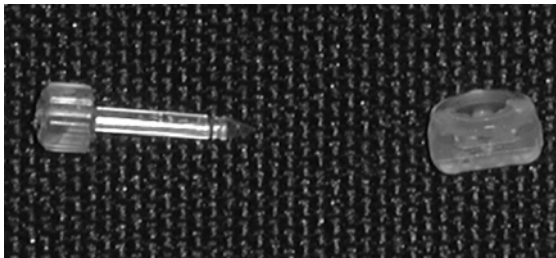
Silver



Golden & Silver  
Medical Plastic

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## Medical Plastic - Earrings



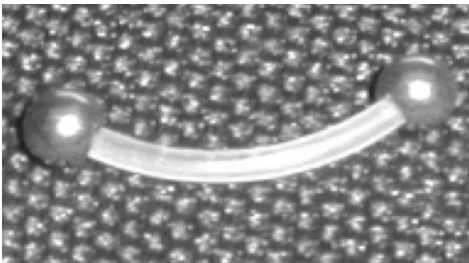
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## Plastic Body Piercing Jewellery



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## Plastic Body Piercing Jewellery



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## Piercing Problems - Guns

- Re-named -Ear **LOBE** piercing section
- Special note on use of guns
- Can't ignore secondary infections
- Gun piercing chemical solutions
- Disinfection of sterile items has caused infections
- Claims of promoting healing simultaneously
- Why disinfect a sterile item ?????
- Driving body piercing services underground is not the answer (age restriction increases risk)

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## Mutilated Navel



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## Mutilated Cartilage



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## Mutilated Cartilage



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## Cartilage Infections

### Ear pierce infection outbreak traced to mall store

*Last Updated: 2002-10-25 10:01:00 (Reuters Health)*

By Bruce Dixon

CHICAGO (Reuters Health) - Piercing the upper ear cartilage can result in serious infections that can potentially leave the upper ear deformed, an expert reported here Thursday at the annual meeting of the Infectious Disease Society of America.

Seven people aged 10 to 19 years developed ear piercing-related infections after visiting the same jewelry store in Klamath Falls, Oregon, said Dr. William E. Kessle, of the Oregon Department of Human Services in Portland.

This is the first documented case of piercing infections traced to the same mall-based store, he said. Though not life-threatening, the infections were serious.

"In four or five of these kids, the infections led to significant disfigurement. Cartilage infections can be difficult to treat and require aggressive therapy," he said. "Four of these people had surgery right away just to drain the wounds and expensive long-term antibiotics were required to combat the infections." Some required reconstructive surgery later on to try to repair the ear.

Health department investigators cultured a common *Pseudomonas* bacterium from the patients' wounds. A survey of other clients of the shop suggest that many had pus drain from their piercing for weeks, suggesting that others were also infected, but were able to heal on their own.

The shop used a "stud gun," a spring-loaded device that pierces the ear and inserts a stud all in one motion, to perform the upper ear piercings. This type of gun, which is designed for piercing the ear lobe, is illegal for cartilage piercing in Oregon and a number of other states.

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## Body Modifications

- Surface piercing
- Dermal punch (biopsy tool)
- Branding
- Scarification
- Implants
- "Mods"

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## Surface Piercing



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## Dermal Punch



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## Dermal Punch



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## Implants

- Not a very common procedure
- Originally beading (or pearling)
- Transdermal and 3D-Art implants
- Dermal pockets formed away from incision site (similar to breast implants)
- METALS – stainless steel, titanium, niobium
- PLASTICS – nylon, Teflon, silicone, etc.
- Silicone injections

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## Implants



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## Implants



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## R.H.P.A.

Regulated Health Professions Act, 1991 - O. Reg. 107/96

Page 3 of 4

8. The following activities are exempt from subsection 27 (1) of the Act:

1. Acupuncture.
2. Ear or body piercing for the purpose of accommodating a piece of jewellery.
3. Electrolysis.
4. Tattooing for cosmetic purposes. O. Reg. 107/96, s. 8.

9. Male circumcision is an activity that is exempt from subsection 27 (1) of the Act if the circumcision is performed as part of a religious tradition or ceremony. O. Reg. 107/96, s. 9.

10. A naturopath is exempt from subsection 27 (1) of the Act for the purpose of carrying on, in accordance with the *Druggists Practitioners Act* and the regulations under that Act, activities that are within the scope of the practice of naturopathy. O. Reg. 107/96, s. 10.

11. The taking of a blood sample from a vein or by skin pricking is an activity that is exempt from subsection 27 (1) of the Act if the person taking the blood sample is employed by a laboratory or specimen collection centre licensed under the *Laboratory and Specimen Collection Centre Licensing Act*. O. Reg. 107/96, s. 11.

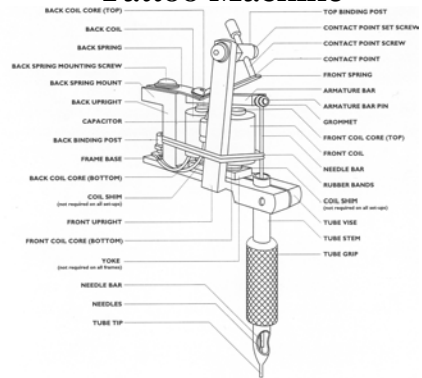
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## Some Tattooing Changes

- Disposable needle bar
- After care
- Accessible sink – translates to all (except ear lobe piercing)

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## Tattoo Machine



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## Needle Bar



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## Needle Bar



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## Cleaning and Sterilizing

- Ultrasonic – cleaning device
- High level disinfection
- Cold sterilization = high level disinfection
- Autoclaving
- Dry Heat

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## Ultra-sonic

- Should always be in a separate room with sinks and autoclave, etc.
- Operating without lid is already a problem
- Lid may not be enough
- Enclosure has shown that contents are being aerosolized

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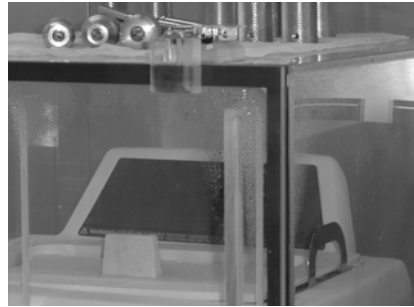


## Ultrasonic Enclosure



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## Ultrasonic Enclosure



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## Autoclaving

- Many operators don't understand sterilization (outside of Tattooing, Body Piercing, Micro pigmentation and Electrolysis)
- Three spore tests
- Prestige model – can also be used with packaging
- Proper packaging of instruments

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## Prestige Autoclave



**AUTOCCLAVE**  
Prestige Series 2100 Classic

100

## Packaging

**Prestige MEDICAL**

EFFECTIVE AFFORDABLE STERILIZATION

13/11/1983

6<sup>th</sup> October 1999

VIA FACSIMILE – 00 1 416 445 2727

Mr Arnaldo Coccato  
Purchasing Division  
Sci-Can  
1440 Don Mills Road  
Toronto, Ontario M3B 3P9  
Canada

Dear Arnaldo

Thank you for your fax of 4<sup>th</sup> October referring to the Prestige Medical 2100 Classic Sterilizer. As you are aware, this is a non-expensive but *COSMOS*



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## Piercing Tools



## Various aesthetics

- Double-dipping still not clear
- Cosmetic policies (Shoppers Drug Mart, Loblaws, Giant Tiger, various cosmetic counters, etc.)
- Sharps – needle stick injuries
- Medical Spas and Cosmetic Clinics
- Bogus services

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## Double - Dipping



## Double - Dipping



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## Sharps



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## Sharps – Needle stick



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## Ear Candling

Marketplace Health & Safety

Marketplace Files Past Shows  
Warnings & Recalls Search

Ear Candling

Health Canada's statement to Marketplace

"Our view on the efficacy of ear candling is that they do not produce the physical effects claimed by their promoters, namely heating of the ear canal and the creation of a suction effect. Our laboratory tests demonstrated that the candle produces no significant heating or suction in the ear canal. The only test results provided by manufacturers support our conclusions. In 1998, one manufacturer sent the Therapeutic Products Programme test results conducted for them by a private laboratory. One test measured the air temperature at a distance of 10 mm from the base of the cone while the candle was burning. At no time did the temperature rise above 22 degrees Celsius. Since body core temperature is 38 degrees Celsius, these tests support our conclusion that the candle produces no heating effect. Another series of tests measured the pressure in a closed vessel attached to the burning candle. The laboratory concluded that "in general, the results observed did not indicate any significant increase or decrease in the ambient pressure of the vessel."

WHAT GOVERNMENT SAYS  
Health Canada's statement

FURTHER READING  
L10131  
[PDF] (30 KB)

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## Medical Spas

- Services **not** by a physician
- Laser
- Microdermabrasion
- Veins
- Wrinkles
- Fat reduction
- Tanning concerns
- Etc.

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## Laser Hair Removal

- Electrolysis being replaced ???
- Not around the eyes
- PSSP requirement
- Types of lasers
- Exposure to blood ???
- Shaving
- Skin contact
- Heat increases blood flow

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## PSSP Requirement 7.2.1 (vi)

Equipment/instruments used in laser hair removal must be cleaned and disinfected or sterilized.

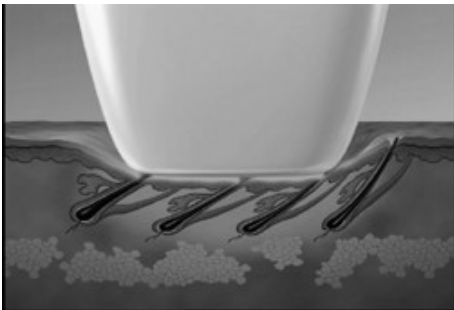
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## Types of Lasers

- CO2 laser - cuts skin
- Hair removal lasers do not
- Ruby (old style)
- Alexandrite (distance gauge – disposable)
- Alexandrite (good results - \$\$\$\$\$)
- Yag – painful (good for dark pigment)
- Diode – very popular (more affordable)

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## Laser



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## Laser



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## Laser



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## Microdermabrasion

- Sanding the skin
- Powdered aluminum oxide crystals
- Crystals are very expensive
- Closed loop system a must
- Most from Europe – not closed loop
- Disposable tips
- Disposable lines

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## Microdermabrasion



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## MMA

- Methyl Methacrylate monomer banned in the USA
- Ban is in effect in Canada
- Enforcement will be difficult
- Regulations and laws not helpful
- Tell operators how to spot Methyl Methacrylate in establishments

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## Spotting Methyl Methacrylate

- Strong, pungent odour
- Causes headaches and dizziness
- Very inexpensive cost for service
- Nails are very hard (cannot be filed)
- Nails must be soaked in harsh chemicals for a long time (not usual acetone soak)
- Nails have to be pried off sometimes

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## Infection Leading to Amputation



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## MMA

Methyl Methacrylate (MMA) Monomer - Retailer Fact Sheet

Canadian manufacturers and distributors of nail products and services should be aware that Health Canada considers the use of methyl methacrylate (MMA) monomer to be unsafe for the purpose of cosmetic manicure preparations. This ingredient is not to be sold or distributed for cosmetic nail preparations due to its potential adverse effects such as: finger nail damage and deformity, contact dermatitis, and other skin sensitization reactions.

### Please note:

The use of MMA ingredient poses a risk to the health and safety of consumers. Section 16 of the *Food and Drug Act* states that no cosmetic may cause injury to the health of the user. Furthermore, Health Canada has not received notification of any cosmetics containing MMA, as would be required by the Cosmetic Regulations under the *FDA*.

- The strong adhesive properties of MMA can cause painful tearing and possible permanent loss of the natural nail, should the artificial nail be pinned or caught.
- Allergic reactions to MMA include red skin rashes, contact dermatitis, itching and/or small sooting blisters in the affected area. MMA may also cause irritation to the nose and throat, as well as headaches.
- Ethyl methacrylate, polymethyl methacrylate and other methacrylate polymers are all alternatives to MMA which are currently permitted in cosmetic products.

Methyl methacrylate (MMA), in unreacted monomeric liquid form, is inappropriate for use in cosmetics. MMA is mixed with acrylic polymer powder on the natural nail to create the body of the artificial nail. During the 1970s, the US Food and Drug Administration (FDA) identified MMA as a poisonous and deleterious substance that should not be used in fingernail preparations. The FDA was a court injunction to remove 100% liquid MMA from use after an investigation determined that MMA was not safe for cosmetic use. At least 34 US states have banned the use of MMA. Numerous injuries were reported to the FDA, including fingernail damage and deformity, contact dermatitis, and other skin sensitization reactions. Other side effects of MMA exposure include irritation to mucous membranes (nose and throat), headaches, and adverse skin reactions. The Nail Manufacturers Council of the American Beauty Association and the Methacrylate Products Association have also taken positions against the use of MMA monomer as an ingredient in artificial nail liquid.

Health Canada is hereby setting notice to importers and distributors of MMA monomer for use in cosmetic nail preparations to cease sale and distribution. Health Canada inspectors are empowered to take necessary enforcement action, including seizing product, should MMA sale be continued.

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## Labelling Laws

- Ingredient labelling not mandatory
- Health Canada working on labelling
- Cosmetics exempt from MSDS/WHMIS

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## Enforcement

- Section 13 order is only way to go (unless some local by-laws apply)
- Competition is a big factor
- Worker safety is a big factor
- Clients see the service as being done to them (can't see inside the kitchen)
- FP vs. BPP
- Education and promotion goes far

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## Section 13 Order

### ORDER

Health Protection and Promotion Act

R.S.O. 1990 Ch. 7, as amended, s. 13

DATE: March 20, 2003

TO:

I, Christian Lapensee, Public Health Inspector, Environmental Health Division, Public Health and Long Term Care Branch of the City of Ottawa, hereby order you to cease and desist in the provision of personal services until such time as the following conditions are met to the satisfaction of the City of Ottawa, Public Health and Long Term Care Branch.

1. The premises shall be provided with an approved means of hand washing. The personal service provider's hands must be washed before and after each client.
2. An accessible sink with potable hot and cold running water shall be conveniently located near the work area and maintained in a clean and sanitary manner. The sink shall be of an adequate size to accommodate the largest piece of equipment/instrument to be cleaned.
3. Contact surfaces including counter tops, trays or other surfaces used to place

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## Education



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