

## **Tattooing and Micropigmentation**

### **Additional Requirements to the General Guidelines Before tattooing and micropigmentation**

To prevent cross-contamination of the work environment:

- i. Only single-use, disposable, sterile needles may be used.
- ii. All supplies required for tattooing or micropigmentation are to be assembled and set-up immediately prior to starting the procedure.
- iii. Prior to using disposable ink caps that are supplied in bulk quantities (e.g. many caps are contained in a bag), individual ink caps must be cleaned and then disinfected with an intermediate level disinfectant (e.g. 70-90% isopropyl alcohol) for 10 minutes.
- iv. After needles are attached to the needle bar, they must be cleaned (i.e. using an ultrasound cleaner) before sterilization.
- v. Disposable ink caps must be discarded immediately after each client. Any leftover ink must be discarded. If additional ink is required a new ink cap is required.
- vi. All reusable ink caps must be sterilized between clients. Single-use caps are preferred. The liquid and caps must be discarded after each client.
- vii. Liquid used for rinsing between colours must be placed in disposable cups. The liquid and cups must be discarded after each client.
- viii. A sufficient number of tissues or wipes required for use during a tattoo or micropigmentation procedure must be dispensed prior to the service. Any assembled unprotected or unused tissues and wipes not used during the procedure must be discarded after each client.
- ix. Do not tattoo or micropigment within six inches inflamed or infected skin, or skin with a rash.

## **Additional Requirements to the General Guidelines After tattooing and micropigmentation**

**Note: Any handling and manipulation of used needles in any manner, such as disassembling the needle bar from the needles, increases the risk of needle stick injury for the PSW.**

- i. The entire needle bar assembly (i.e. needle bar with attached needles) must be discarded into an approved sharps container immediately after each tattoo or micropigmentation procedure. Used needles and needle bars must not be handled or manipulated prior to being discarded.
- ii. If a tattoo machine is not used for micropigmentation, the needle holder device on the pen/instrument must be single-use disposable or cleaned and then sterilized before it can be used again.
- iii. Any leftover products must be discarded. They may not be returned to their original containers and must not be used on another client.
- iv. If stencils are used they must be single-use and discarded at the end of the procedure.
- v. Reusable tubes must be disassembled, if appropriate, prior to cleaning.
- vi. The tattoo must be covered with an individually packaged dressing or bandage intended for covering wounds.
- vii. Clients must be given verbal and written information regarding tattooing aftercare such as:
  - a) Discuss appropriate aftercare for tattooing and micropigmentation
  - b) Clean hands immediately before touching tattooed area
  - c) Discuss the expected healing time of the site with the client
  - d) Describe possible complication and their signs and symptoms
  - e) Advise on how to deal with slight redness, pain, or swelling and
  - f) Recommend consultation with a family physician if the problem does not improve within 24 hours.

**For more information, call**

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Smiths Falls 613-283-2740**

**HealthACTION Line  
at 1-800-660-5853**

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