

Body Piercing

In addition to *General and Operational Requirements*

Before the Service:

- Inspect the skin. Do not pierce inflamed or infected skin or skin with a rash.
- All supplies and equipment required for piercing are to be assembled and set up immediately prior to starting the procedure.
- An approved sharps container must be located in the area that the sharps item is used.

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

Equipment:

- Single-use, disposable sterile needles must be used and discarded in an approved sharps container immediately after use.
- Equipment and instruments that cannot be properly cleaned and disinfected between clients are single-use (e.g. dermal punch, closed ended receiving tubes, corks, elastics, etc.).
- Some equipment (e.g. ring opening / closing pliers, forceps, needle pushers, insertion tapers, connectors, open-ended receiving tubes, etc.) are required to be sterile prior to use.
- All reusable equipment must be cleaned and then sterilized by an acceptable method (refer to *Sterilization Information Sheet*).
- All jewellery used for body piercing must be sterile. Any modified jewellery must be cleaned (e.g. ultrasonic cleaner), packaged and sterilized by an acceptable method (refer to *Sterilization Information Sheet*).
- All equipment, instruments and jewellery that require sterilization must be cleaned and packaged either disassembled (e.g. jewellery, etc.) or in the open position (e.g. clamps).
- Where lubricant is used to lubricate the needle prior to piercing, the lubricant should be provided in sterile, single-use packages.
- All reusable equipment (e.g. calipers, service trays, beds, chairs, counter, containers, etc.) must be cleaned and then disinfected (low to high level depending on use) between clients (refer to *Cleaning, Disinfection & Sterilization Flowchart*).

Continued ↪



Environmental Help Line
905-723-3818 or 1-888-777-9613
durham.ca



If you require this information in an accessible format, contact 1-888-777-9613.

Infection Prevention and Control Best Practices for Personal Services Settings ▪ Information Sheet

- Clean marking materials (e.g. iodine felt tip pen, iodine or gentian violet with toothpick) must be used to mark piercing sites. Follow the marking procedure* below:
 - clean site to be pierced with approved skin antiseptic
 - mark site
 - let dry
 - clean site again with approved skin antiseptic

*Other marking procedures may be considered. Review any other procedure with the Public Health Inspector for approval.

Sterilization

- Refer to the following Information Sheets: *Sterilization, Chemical & Physical Monitoring of Sterilizer, Biological Monitoring of Sterilizer, Sterilization Log Sheet*.
- Provide an approved sterilizer (refer to *Sterilization* Information Sheet) or pre-packaged, sterile items.
- If pre-packaged, sterile items are provided, records of all information are required on-site for tracking purposes (i.e. proof of sterility, name of company that sterilizes the needles, lot numbers, invoices / receipts, etc.). **Any sterile items without records may be seized by the Public Health Inspector at time of inspection.**

After Care

- Clients must be given verbal and written information regarding piercing aftercare, such as:
 - ✓ Normal bathing and showering are permitted but otherwise keep pierced area dry
 - ✓ Clean hands immediately before touching jewellery
 - ✓ Turning jewellery when pierced area is not dry
 - ✓ Allow the pierced area access to air by using loose covering
 - ✓ Discuss the expected healing time of the pierced area
 - ✓ Describe possible complications and their signs and symptoms
 - ✓ Advice on how to deal with slight redness, pain or swelling
 - ✓ Recommend consultation with a family physician if the problem does not improve within 24 hours
 - ✓ Advise not to remove jewellery from potentially infected piercing and to contact piercer AND seek medical advice



Environmental Help Line
905-723-3818 or 1-888-777-9613
durham.ca



If you require this information in an accessible format, contact 1-888-777-9613.