

# Hairdressing and Barbering

In addition to *General and Operational Requirements*

## Before the Service:

- Perform hand hygiene.
- Client's hair and scalp must be examined for open sores or nits and lice. Do not provide service if open sores, nits and lice are observed. Advise the client to seek medical attention.
- An approved sharps container must be located in areas where needles and sharp items are used.

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

## Equipment:

- All reusable equipment and instruments (e.g. combs, brushes, clips, curlers) must be cleaned and then disinfected (low to high level depending on use) between clients – refer to *Cleaning, Disinfection & Sterilization Flowchart*.
- Reusable “crochet hooks” used for cap highlights must be cleaned and then disinfected with an intermediate to high level disinfectant.
- Clippers and trimmers/edgers, scissors are non-critical items. However, if the blades nick the skin, these become semi-critical items and must be cleaned and then disinfected with an intermediate to high level disinfectant (high level disinfectant is recommended).
- Hair feathering / texturizing blade must have a protective guard. If blade contacts skin, blade must be discarded immediately and handle and cradle must be cleaned and disinfected with an intermediate to high level disinfectant.
- Any blades used for shaving skin must be single-use and discarded in an approved sharps container immediately after use
- For shaving skin, handles and cradles that hold blades in place must be cleaned and then disinfected with an intermediate to high level disinfectant.
- Reusable straight razor with a fixed blade is not recommended. If a straight razor is used, it must be cleaned and sterilized between uses. An approved sterilizer must be on site and follow all sterilizer monitoring procedures. Refer to the following information sheets: *Chemical & Physical Monitoring of Sterilizer* and *Biological Monitoring of Sterilizer*.

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Source: Ministry of Health and Long-Term Care, Infection Prevention and Control Best Practices for Personal Services Settings, Jan. 2009.

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

- Needles used for hair weaves must be single-use and discarded in an approved sharps container immediately after use.
- To encourage proper cleaning, disinfecting and rinsing of combs and brushes, the disinfectant solution should be placed next to a sink.
- Equipment and instruments that cannot be properly cleaned and disinfected between clients are single-use (e.g. foil, paper).
- When a reusable protective cover is used around a client's neck, a sanitary strip or clean towel must be used to keep the protective cover from coming into direct contact with the neck. The used neck strip or towel must be discarded / laundered after each use.



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