

Fact Sheet

Hairdressing and Barbering

To prevent infections from occurring through these services:

- Use a sanitary neck strip or a clean towel between the clients' skin and the shampoo cape or cutting cloth and discard or launder between clients.
- All disinfectant solutions must be made fresh daily or according to the manufacturer's specification.
- To achieve disinfection, items require full immersion in the solution for the appropriate contact time as instructed by the manufacturer.
- To encourage rinsing after contact time as required, the disinfectant solution used on non-critical instruments (combs) should be placed next to a sink.
- "Crochet hooks" used for cap highlights must be cleaned then disinfected with an intermediate to high level disinfectant.
- The handle and cradle of the razor, which holds the blade in place, must be cleaned and disinfected with an intermediate to high level disinfectant after each use. Razors that allow for easy cleaning of the cradle are recommended.
- A straight razor with a fixed blade must be cleaned and sterilized between uses.
- Remove excess hair from scissors and hair clippers then disinfect with an intermediate level disinfectant between clients.
- If scissors or electric hair clippers cut or scratch the skin of client or operator, these must be immediately cleaned with soap and water and soaked in an intermediate level disinfectant for the recommended contact time.
- Sprays used on scissors or electric hair clippers should have a D.I.N. (Drug Identification Number) and be tuberculocidal –effective against mycobacterium.
- Needles used for hair weaves and extensions that come into contact or scratch the client or operator must be discarded into an approved sharps container immediately.
- Discard disposable blades into an approved sharps container immediately after use.
- Styptic pencils cannot be used to stop bleeding on clients. Styptic matches, powder or liquid forms are acceptable provided that they are applied in a manner to prevent contamination.
- The PSS owner must keep accidental exposure records (accidental cuts/nicks) on site for a minimum of one year, and on file for a minimum of 5 years.

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