



Livingston County Department of Public Health
Environmental Health Division

Minimum Standards for Body Art Establishments

November, 2007

**LIVINGSTON COUNTY MINIMUM STANDARDS FOR BODY ART
ESTABLISHMENTS
TABLE OF CONTENTS**

SECTION 1.0 - AUTHORITY AND ADMINISTRATION

SECTION 1.1 AUTHORITY

SECTION 1.2 PURPOSE

SECTION 2.0 - PREMISES

SECTION 2.1 SEPARATION OF ESTABLISHMENT

SECTION 2.2 VERMIN

SECTION 2.3 ANIMALS

SECTION 2.4 WALLS, FLOORS, CEILINGS, AND SURFACES

SECTION 2.5 FLOOR SPACE

SECTION 2.6 VENTILATION AND LIGHTING

SECTION 2.7 HAND SINK

SECTION 2.8 LAVATORY AND TOILET

SECTION 2.9 SMOKING/EATING

SECTION 2.10 WASTE RECEPTACLE

SECTION 2.11 INFECTIOUS WASTE CONTAINMENT

SECTION 2.12 BLOODBORNE PATHOGENS

SECTION 3.0 – PREPARATION AND CARE OF BODY ART AREA

SECTION 3.1 SKIN PREPARATION

SECTION 3.2 SHAVING

SECTION 4.0 – SINGLE USE EQUIPMENT/ITEMS

SECTION 4.1 SINGLE USE SHARPS (NEEDLES AND RAZORS)

SECTION 4.2 SINGLE USE PRODUCTS

SECTION 4.3 ACETATE STENCILS

SECTION 5.0 – SANITIZATION AND STERILIZATION

SECTION 5.1 INSTRUMENT CLEANING

SECTION 5.2 INSTRUMENT STERILIZATION

SECTION 5.3 INKS AND PIGMENT

SECTION 5.4 CLOTH ITEMS

SECTION 6.0 – PERSONAL CLEANLINESS AND HYGIENIC PRACTICES

SECTION 6.1 PERSONAL CLEANLINESS

LIVINGSTON COUNTY MINIMUM STANDARDS FOR BODY ART ESTABLISHMENTS

SECTION 1.0 – AUTHORITY AND ADMINISTRATION

Section 1.1 AUTHORITY

These minimum standards for body art establishments are hereby established pursuant to authority conferred upon Livingston County Department of Public Health and the Livingston County Sanitary Code Chapter XI known as Livingston County Regulation to Require a License to Operate a Body Art Establishment and to Establish Minimum Standards for Body Art Establishments. The Minimum Standards for Body Art Establishments in conjunction with the Regulation to Require License to Operate a Body Art Establishment regulates the design, construction, management and operation of body art establishments.

Section 1.2 PURPOSE

Injuries, infections and disease transmissions may occur as a result of improper body art or aftercare procedures. Body art, by its nature, places individuals at risk for communicable disease transmission. Body art involves multiple intradermal injections of the skin by a small machine having one or more needles connected to tubes containing the dyes. Since body art involves injections under the skin, without proper sterilization and infection control practices, there is a risk for viral and bacterial infection. Additionally, blood is present in each procedure, increasing risk of infection by bloodborne pathogens to the technician. Therefore, these standards are established to safeguard the public health.

SECTION 2.0 – PREMISES

Section 2.1 SEPARATION OF ESTABLISHMENT

All establishments shall be completely separated by solid partitions or by walls extending from floor to ceiling, from any room used for human habitation, a food establishment or room where food is prepared, a hair salon, retail sales, or other such activity which may cause potential contamination of work surfaces.

Section 2.2 VERMIN

Any part of the establishment, its appurtenances or appertaining premises shall be kept free of vermin, insects or rodents.

Section 2.3 ANIMALS

No animals shall be allowed except service animals used by persons with disabilities or patrol dogs accompanying security or police officers. Aquariums with community fish shall be allowed in waiting rooms and non-procedural areas.

Section 2.4 WALLS, FLOORS, CEILINGS AND SURFACES

- 1) All walls, floors, ceilings and all procedure surfaces shall be smooth, free of open holes or cracks, light-colored, washable and in good repair and maintained in a clean, sanitary condition. Carpeting is prohibited.
- 2) All procedure surfaces, including client chairs/benches, shall be of such construction as to be easily cleaned and sanitized after each client.
- 3) There shall be no overhead or otherwise exposed sewage lines so as to create a potential hazard to the sanitary environment of the business.

Section 2.5 FLOOR SPACE

The premises in which body art is conducted shall consist of an area of at least one hundred square feet. There shall be a minimum of forty five (45) square feet of floor space for each technician in the establishment. At a minimum, each body art station shall be separated by dividers, curtains, or partitions.

Section 2.6 VENTILATION AND LIGHTING

The establishment shall be well ventilated and provided with an artificial light source of at least twenty (20) foot candles three (3) feet off the floor, except that at least 100-foot candles shall be provided at the level where the body art procedure is being performed, and where instruments and sharps are assembled. Spotlighting may be used to achieve this required degree of illumination.

Section 2.7 HAND SINK

A separate, readily accessible, hand sink with hot and cold running water, under pressure, preferably equipped with wrist or foot operated controls and supplied with liquid antimicrobial soap, disposable paper towels and a covered waste receptacle shall be readily accessible, and service no more than three technicians. The hand sink shall be located in close proximity of each body art technician.

Section 2.8 LAVATORY AND TOILET

There shall be a minimum of one lavatory and one toilet with a covered waste receptacle cleanable and kept clean. Restroom facilities shall be made available to the employees and customers of the business and must be located within the establishment and comply with state and local plumbing code regulations. The restroom shall be equipped with hot and cold running water, liquid antimicrobial soap and paper towels in dispensers. Equipment and supplies used in the course of body art procedures shall not be stored or utilized in this area.

Section 2.9 SMOKING/EATING

A person shall not be allowed to smoke, eat or drink within an area where body art is performed or where there is a reasonably anticipated risk or exposure to blood or OPIM.

Section 2.10 WASTE RECEPTACLE

An establishment shall have at least one covered waste receptacle in each practitioner work area for non-biohazardous waste. These waste receptacles shall be emptied daily and solid wastes removed from the premises at least weekly. Refuse containers shall be lidded, cleanable and kept clean.

Section 2.11 INFECTIOUS WASTE CONTAINMENT

1) Contaminated disposable needles, sharp objects, or other infectious wastes shall be stored in leak-resistant, puncture-resistant containers, tightly sealed to prevent expulsion, labeled with the biohazard symbol, and effectively treated in accordance with this rule, prior to being stored in a secured area and sent for final disposal.

2) Infectious wastes other than contaminated sharps or objects that could potentially become contaminated sharps shall be placed in bags that meet the following requirements:

- a) Impervious to moisture
- b) Sufficient strength and thickness to prevent expulsion
- c) Secured to prevent leakage
- d) Labeled with the biohazard symbol
- e) Effectively treated in accordance with this rule prior to being placed in a secured area and sent for final disposal

3) If infectious waste is stored prior to final disposal, all persons subject to this rule shall store infectious waste in a secure area that is locked or otherwise secured to eliminate access by or exposure to the general public, affords protection from adverse environmental conditions and vermin, and has a prominently displayed biohazard symbol.

- 4) Infectious waste shall be stored in a manner that preserves the integrity of the container, and is not conducive to rapid microbial growth and putrefaction.
- 5) Contaminated waste which may release liquid blood or body fluids when compressed or may release dried blood or body fluids when handled must be placed in an approved "red" bag which is marked with the International biohazard symbol. A waste hauler approved by the Department must dispose of it. Sharps ready for disposal shall be disposed of in approved sharps containers. Contaminated waste which does not release liquid blood or body fluids when compressed or does not release dried blood or body fluids when handled may be placed in a covered receptacle and disposed of through normal, approved disposal methods. Storage of contaminated waste on-site shall not exceed the period specified by the Department or more than a maximum of 90 days.

Section 2.12 BLOODBORNE PATHOGENS

A person or establishment shall comply with all the rules on bloodborne pathogens which are prescribed by the Occupational Safety and Health Administration and by the Michigan Occupational Safety and Health Act and Chapter XI Sections 1102.03 and 1104 of the Livingston County Sanitary Code.

SECTION 3.0 – PREPARATION AND CARE OF BODY ART AREA

Section 3.1 SKIN PREPARATION

- 1) Before performing a body art procedure, the immediate and surrounding area of the skin where the body art procedure is to be placed shall be washed with antimicrobial soap and water, iodine or an approved surgical skin preparation, depending on the type of body art to be performed.
- 2) In the event of blood flow, all products used to check the flow of blood or to absorb blood shall be single use and disposed of immediately after use in appropriate covered containers, unless the disposal products meet the definition of regulated waste.

Section 3.2 SHAVING

- 1) If shaving is necessary, single use disposable razors or safety razors with single service blades shall be used and discarded after each use and the reusable holder shall be autoclaved after use.
- 2) Following shaving, the skin and surrounding area will be washed with soap and water and the washing pad shall be discarded after a single use.

SECTION 4.0 – SINGLE USE EQUIPMENT/ITEMS

Section 4.1 SINGLE USE SHARPS (NEEDLES AND RAZORS)

- 1) Single use items shall not be used on more than one client for any reason.
- 2) After use, all single use needles, razors and other sharps shall be immediately disposed of in approved containers.
- 3) Contaminated needles shall not be bent or broken or otherwise manipulated by hand.

Section 4.2 SINGLE USE PRODUCTS

- 1) Petroleum jellies, soaps or other products used in the application of stencils shall be dispensed and applied on the area to be tattooed with sterile gauze, the gauze shall be discarded, or in a manner to prevent contamination of the original container and its contents.
- 2) All products applied to the skin, including body art stencils, shall be single use and disposable.

Section 4.3 ACETATE STENCILS

Acetate stencils shall be allowed for re-use if sanitization procedures are performed between uses.

SECTION 5.0 – SANITIZATION AND STERILIZATION

Section 5.1 INSTRUMENT CLEANING

- 1) All non-single-use, non-disposable instruments used for body art shall be cleaned thoroughly after each use by scrubbing with an appropriate soap or disinfectant solution and hot water, or by following the manufacturer's instructions to remove blood and tissue residue.
- 2) All non-single use, non-disposable instruments shall be placed in an ultrasonic unit, which will be operated in accordance with manufacturer's instructions.

Section 5.2 INSTRUMENT STERILIZATION

- 1) All cleaned, non-disposable instruments used for body art shall be packed in peel-packs and subsequently autoclave sterilized. Autoclave sterilization or dry heat sterilization must be used when heat stable, non-disposable equipment is sterilized. It shall be used, cleaned, and maintained according to the manufacturer's instruction. A copy of the manufacturer's recommended procedures for the operation of their sterilization unit must be available for inspection. Sterilizers shall be located away from work stations or areas frequented by the public.
- 2) All peel packs shall contain either a sterilizer indicator or internal temperature indicator, and must be dated with an expiration date not to exceed 30 days.
- 3) Sterile equipment may not be used if the package has been breached or after the expiration date without first repackaging and resterilizing.
- 4) After sterilization, the instruments and reusable needles used for body art shall be stored in sterile packages in a dry, clean cabinet or other tightly covered container reserved for the storage of such instruments and remain stored until just prior to performing a procedure.
- 5) When assembling instruments used for performing body art procedures, the operator shall wear disposable medical gloves and use medically recognized techniques to ensure that the instruments and gloves are not contaminated.
- 6) Gloves shall be worn when decontaminating environmental surfaces and equipment.
- 7) Each operator shall demonstrate that the sterilizer used is capable of attaining sterilization by monthly spore destruction tests, verified through an independent laboratory. These test records shall be retained for a period of three (3) years.

Section 5.3 INKS AND PIGMENTS

- 1) All inks, dyes, pigment, needles and equipment shall be specifically manufactured for performing body art procedures, and shall be used according to the manufacturer's instructions.
- 2) Immediately before applying a tattoo, the quantity of the dye to be used shall be transferred from the dye bottle and placed into single use paper cups or plastic caps. The mixing of approved inks, dyes or pigments or their dilution with potable water is acceptable.
- 3) Upon completion of the tattoo, these single cups or caps and their contents shall be discarded.

Section 5.4 CLOTH ITEMS

Reusable cloth items shall be mechanically washed with detergent and dried after each use. The cloth items shall be stored in a dry, clean environment until used.

SECTION 6.0 – PERSONAL CLEANLINESS AND HYGIENIC PRACTICES

Section 6.1 PERSONAL CLEANLINESS

- 1) The technician shall maintain a high degree of personal cleanliness, conform to good hygienic practices, and wear clean clothes when performing body art procedures.
- 2) Before performing body art procedures, the technician must thoroughly wash their hands in hot running water with liquid antimicrobial soap, then rinse hands and dry with disposable paper towels.
- 3) In performing body art procedures, the technician shall wear disposable medical gloves. Gloves must be changed if they become contaminated by contact with any non-clean surfaces or objects or contact with a third person. The gloves shall be discarded at a minimum, after the completion of each procedure on an individual client, and hands washed prior to donning the next set of gloves. Under no circumstances shall a single pair of gloves be use on more than one person.
- 4) If, while performing a body art procedure, the technician's glove is pierced, torn, or otherwise contaminated, the procedure listed above shall be repeated immediately. The contaminated gloves shall be immediately discarded and the hands washed thoroughly before a fresh pair of gloves are applied.
- 5) Any item or instrument used for body art which is contaminated during the procedure shall be discarded and replaced immediately with a new disposable item or a new sterilized instrument or item before the procedure resumes.