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## **Professional Body Arts Business**

*Definitions.* –According to Section 314A: I "Body Arts" is inclusive of Tattooing, Body Piercing and Permanent Cosmetics, and is not inclusive of branding/scarification. II. "Body Artist" means a person licensed to practice tattooing, body piercing, and permanent cosmetics, and whose license is in good standing. Body artists must use sterile, disposable, one-use needles.

### **Safeguarding Guidance:**

The Governor's Economic Re-Opening Task Force recommends protocols for safeguarding all New Hampshire businesses during the coronavirus disease 2019 (COVID-19) pandemic. This industry-specific guidance is based on what is currently known about COVID-19 and is intended to protect the public's health and allow New Hampshire to begin to open for business. These recommendations aim to reduce transmission of COVID-19 among practitioners and clients; support normal business operations, and maintain a healthy work environment. In addition to strict adherence to [U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention \(CDC\)](#), [Equal Employment Opportunity Commission \(EEOC\)](#) and [Occupational Safety and Health Administration \(OSHA\)](#) guidance. The State of New Hampshire recommends policies and procedures to protect consumers and employees, including:

**Effective immediately until further notice, a Two Phased Reopening Plan to follow, including Employee Protection, Consumer Protection, and Business Process Adaptations as detailed below.**

**Phase 1 Guidelines Employee Protection:** In addition to NH [STAY AT HOME 2.0](#), and CDC [Information for Healthcare Professionals about Coronavirus \(COVID-19\)](#) Body Artists and office staff will follow:

#### 1. Facemasks

Wear a surgical/cloth facemask at all times in the studio. Ideally, a single facemask would be used per patient encounter. If supplies need to be conserved, a surgical mask can be used for an entire day. Using a single mask for multiple days may be considered if supplies are not otherwise available. The CDC has allowed for extended use of a disposable surgical face mask under the following conditions:

- a. The facemask must be removed and discarded if soiled or damaged. The Body Artist may not touch the facemask. If the facemask is touched, immediate hand hygiene is performed.
- b. The Body Artist should leave the procedure area/work station to remove their facemask. If the mask is to be stored, the mask is folded with the outer

surface folded inward (to reduce contact of the outer surface), and the mask can be placed inside a clean, sealable paper bag.

- c. To don a mask, the practitioner performs hand hygiene, visually inspects the mask for soil or defect, then applies the mask, taking care not to touch the inner surface.
- d. To doff a mask, first, hand hygiene is performed. The mask is removed, taking care not to touch the inside of the mask. The mask is stored or discarded, and hand hygiene is repeated.

## 2. Personal Protective Equipment and Barriers

All personal protective equipment, inclusive of latex/nitrile gloves and disposable barriers, will be used in accordance with all existing body art regulations. All PPE is to be considered one-time use and properly disposed of during the course of/at the end of the procedure.

## 3. Personal Clothing

- a. Body Artists should wear clean clothes into the studio. Scrubs and paper gowns are acceptable options.
- b. In effort to avoid cross contamination, jewelry and loose clothing must be removed or tied back in order to prevent contact with work surfaces and clients.

## 4. Workstation set-up:

- a. Workstations should be partially set-up before appointment, including furniture placement, barriers, soaps, etc...
- b. Set-up for needles, instruments, machines, ink/caps should be done with client present

## 5. Workstation breakdown:

- a. All disposable supplies should be discarded in the appropriate receptacle and trash removed from work area before next appointment set-up
- b. All non-disposable instruments (tubes, hemostats, etc...) in need of autoclaving, should be placed in a medical tray and safely carried to the cleaning room, so that disinfection and sterilization via an ultrasonic and/or autoclave can be conducted according to established health dept. and manufacturer guidelines.

## c. Disinfection Procedures:

Apply EPA-registered hospital-grade disinfectant for the appropriate contact time indicated on the product label. Ensure products remain for wet "contact" or "dwell" time. Ensure antiseptic "wipes" meet these criteria.

All work-area surfaces should be disinfected with before-mentioned EPA registered, hospital-grade disinfectant, including but not limited to:

Treatment tables, machines/instruments and trays, electrical implements, countertops, chairs/stools, door handles, sink/faucets, light switches, hand sanitizer pump handles, as well as any other identified high-touch surface.

### **Consumer Protection**

1. All clients and employees must wear a facemask at all times while in the studio. If the client/employee does not have a mask, the studio will provide one for them.
  - a. Clients may use cloth faces masks. Multiple layers of fabric such as cotton-silk, cotton-flannel, and cotton-chiffon provide significantly more particulate filtration.
  - b. Employees should use 1-time use disposable facemasks
  - c. Hand sanitizing must be performed before donning the facemask & the mask worn over mouth and nose
  - d. Clients are to be instructed not to remove the facemask while in the studio.
2. Provision of tissues for cough/sneeze etiquette and non-touch waste disposal
3. All barriers, including table and pillow coverings will be entirely changed for each procedure.
4. Minimize physical, social, and face to face interaction.
5. Social Distancing Procedures
  - a. Stagger client appointment times to allow for adequate time for cleaning and disinfecting.
  - b. Clients need to isolate themselves in a car or by social distancing and wait for a phone notification that a staff member will meet them at the entry

to provide screening and escort them directly to the work station.

- c. Utilize phone and email whenever possible to limit time client is physically in the studio.
- d. If procedure being performed is in a shared room, all work stations, body artists, and clients will be spaced at a minimum 6-foot distance.
- e. Payment for services:
  - 1. Contactless payment suggested whenever possible.
  - 2. Cash transactions to be performed by client counting out payment into a tray/box and will be handled by staff using disposable gloves.
- f. All supplemental merchandise will be sold without hands-on contact.
- g. No more than ten people are allowed in a facility at one time. All social distancing rules

apply at all times.

- h. All reception/waiting areas will be closed to the public and client must not be accompanied by another unless required by law.

#### 6. Pre-Entrance Screening Procedures

- a. Clients must receive pre-visit telephone consultation prior to their appointment to screen for symptoms consistent with COVID-19, recent travel, and exposure to people with suspected or confirmed COVID-19.
- b. Any client presenting symptoms will be rescheduled with the understanding that service cannot be performed until free of symptoms related to COVID-19.

#### 7. Entrance Screening Procedures

- a. All staff and clients must be screened upon entry into the studio space; those with the symptoms or combination of symptoms will be denied access to the studio and referred to their care provider for evaluation.
- b. Optional screening for temperature: Studios wishing to screen for temperature should use non-contact thermometers which will be disinfected between uses according to manufacturer's instructions (often with an alcohol wipe).
- c. Screen for COVID-19 symptoms:
  - New cough\*
  - New shortness of breath\*
  - New fever, or feel feverish
  - New chills, or repeated shaking with chills
  - New fatigue\*
  - New sore throat\*
  - New loss of taste or smell
  - New nasal congestion\*

- New muscle aches that are not caused by specific activity such as exercise\*
  - New diarrhea\* \*cannot be attributed to another health condition
8. Upon completion of entry screening, clients will be directed to the closest hand-washing sink and using antimicrobial soap and warm water, wash hands for 30 seconds.
- a. Businesses are required to post proper hand-washing instructions at all sinks used

by clients and employees.

9. Source Control Procedures:

- a. All pre and post procedure contacts (consultations and after care) will utilize phone, internet and email in lieu of in-person contact.
- b. Reduce or eliminate cancellation fees related to COVID-19.
- c. Educate patients on the proper use of facemask.
- d. Provide & post hand hygiene instructions
- e. Provide & post cough etiquette instruction
- f. Avoid all non-required personal contact - shaking hands, hugging, etc...
- g. No walk-in appointments.

**Business Process Adaptations:**

1. Body Artists must provide to clients an additional Consent to Treat form to sign. The Consent to Treat must inform clients that despite adherence to these enhanced guidelines, as in all social and physical interactions, there is a potential risk of exposure to COVID-19.
2. All appointments are required to be spaced a minimum of one-half hour to ensure time for proper cleaning/disinfecting.
3. Appointments should be kept to the minimum amount of time necessary to properly perform the procedure. If multiple session appointments are an option given the uniqueness of each procedure, multiple appointments should be made.
4. Disinfection Procedures:
  - a. General studio space not considered an official workstation/procedure surface should be cleaned at beginning of day, between appointments & end of day with 10:1 ratio bleach solution or equivalent disinfectant, including but not limited to:
    - i. Entrance/exit doors & handles, reception areas, break rooms, restrooms, etc...
5. Declutter Procedures
  - i. Decorative items, books, office supplies, or infrequently used items should be removed from workstations/procedure rooms.
  - ii. All procedure supplies not needed for the specific procedure being performed should be removed/stored.
6. Written exposure plan

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- a. Each clinic should have written an Exposure Control Plan in compliance with OSHA standard 29 CFR 1910.1030, even if you are a sole proprietor.

**Phase 2 Guidelines:**



- Re-establish full scope of practice per state licensing.
- Continue non-in-person contact as an option regarding consultations, aftercare guidance, etc....
- Maintain PSA both visual and auditory to instruct patients and staff on hand and cough hygiene.
- Utilize waiting rooms.
- Allow books, decorative items, books, office supplies in treatment rooms.
- Maintain cleaning standards
- Continue with a Written Exposure Plan and review annually.