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COSMETOLOGY EXAMINING BOARD

PROCEDURES FOR EXPOSURE TO BLOOD OR BODILY FLUIDS

(Wisconsin Administrative Code)

COS 4.02 DISINFECTION:

- (1) Unless sterilized, disinfection is required prior to reuse on another patron of any personal care instruments, including scissors, razors, clipper blades, and tweezers, excluding tweezers used in electrolysis.
- (2) Disinfection for scissors, razors, clipper blades, and tweezers shall consist of cleaning with soap and water to remove all organic material, wiping with, or soaking in a disinfectant as defined in Wis. Admin. Code § COS 1.01, and air-drying.
- (3) Disinfection for combs, lifts, brushes, rollers and any other contact equipment shall consist of cleaning with soap and water to remove all organic material, spraying with a tuberculocidal disinfectant as defined in Wis. Admin. Code § COS 1.01, and air-drying.
- (4) Clean and disinfected contact equipment shall be placed in one or more covered containers. One or more separate containers shall be provided for the immediate storage of soiled contact equipment until cleaned and disinfected.
- (5) Disinfectant used for decontamination shall be changed daily and shall be kept in a covered container.
- (6) Laundry shall be disinfected by washing with a solution containing a germicidal compound.

NOTE: Bleach and Lysol (brown bottle) are germicidal compounds.

COS 4.03 STERILIZATION:

- (1) Sterilization in Wis. Admin. Code § COS 4.07, 4.09 and 4.10 shall be accomplished by use of a dry heat or steam sterilizer cleared for marketing by the food and drug administration, used according to manufacturer's instructions. If steam sterilization, moist heat, is utilized, heat exposure shall be at a minimum of 121° C., 250° F., for at least 30 minutes. If dry heat sterilization is utilized, heat exposure shall be at a minimum of 171° C., 340° F., for at least 60 minutes.
- (2) Sterilizers shall be maintained in working order. Equipment shall be checked in compliance with manufacturer's recommendations at least monthly to ensure that it is reaching required temperatures.

COS 4.04 SUPPLIES:

- (1) All workstations shall be supplied with at least one of the antiseptics listed in Wis. Admin. Code § COS 4.05 for use by licensees in case of injury.
- (2) All licensees working in a licensed establishment shall be supplied with bandages and disposable gloves.

COS 4.05 PROCEDURE FOR EXPOSURE TO BLOOD:

- (1) When any patron or licensee is exposed to blood by scissors cut, razor cut, needle stick, laceration or other exposure to broken skin or a mucous membrane, the licensee shall stop, thoroughly wash the exposed area or wound on the patron's or the licensee's body with soap and water, and disinfect the exposed area or wound with a topical antiseptic such as iodine, 70% isopropyl alcohol, or 6% stabilized hydrogen peroxide or equivalent. In the case of mucous membrane exposure, the licensee shall wash or rinse the affected area with plenty of water.
- (2) A licensed establishment shall post a written protocol describing the procedure for unintentional occupational exposure to bodily fluids described in sub. (1). The protocol shall be posted in a place conspicuous to licensees.

COS 4.06 PRECAUTIONARY PROCEDURES:

- (1) A licensee shall cover any abrasions, oozing or open lesions, or wounds on his or her hands or forearms prior to patron contact. If a licensee has oozing or open lesions or weeping dermatitis on his or her hands or forearms that cannot be effectively covered, the licensee shall refrain from direct patron contact until the condition has been resolved.
- (2) A licensee shall use disposable protective gloves when dealing with patrons with oozing or open lesions or weeping dermatitis. These gloves shall be changed between patrons and disposed of after use. Gloves shall be removed upon completion of patron services, and hands washed after glove removal.

NOTE: It is recommended that licensees use protective gloves in handling caustic chemicals such as permanent waving solution and neutralizer or hair straightening preparations. The handling of these substances without protection can cause skin damage, which may provide a route for infection to be transmitted to the licensee.

- (3) Licensees shall carefully bag and dispose of paper products contaminated with blood and thoroughly cleanse and disinfect linens contaminated with blood in accordance with Wis. Admin. Code § COS 4.02(6).

NOTE: Paper products contaminated with blood may be disposed of in the regular trash unless saturated with blood. See Wis. Admin Code § NR 526.05 (Department of Natural Resources).

RECOMENDATION: It is recommended that licensees wear protective gloves whenever they are treating a patron for a scissors cut, razor cut, needle stick, laceration or other exposure to broken skin or a mucous membrane, to insure no direct exposure to blood or bodily fluids occurs.