Chapter 2
Infection Control

Section 1. Infection Control and Safety Standards, adopted from the National Interstate Council of Cosmetology and Barbering (NIC).

(a) Wet disinfection and storage standards.

(i) Prior to use on any client, all non-porous tools and implements or multi-use items must be cleaned AND disinfected. Items must be cleaned with soap and warm water or a chemical cleaner. The items must then be disinfected by complete immersion in an EPA registered, bactericidal, virucidal, fungicidal (Formulated for Hospitals) disinfectant that is mixed and used according to the manufacturer’s directions. Note: Items that are porous are not able to be disinfected and must be disposed of after each use.

(ii) Items MUST stay immersed or visibly moist with disinfectant for the entire contact time listed on the manufacturer’s label to be effective.

(iii) All disinfectant solution must be changed per the manufacturer’s label or sooner if contaminated.

(b) Dry storage standards.

(i) Disinfected implements must be stored in a disinfected, dry covered container and be isolated from contaminants. At no time can these items come into contact with used/dirty items.

(c) Hand washing.

(i) Thoroughly wash hands and the exposed portions of arms with soap and water before providing services to each client and after, smoking, drinking, eating, and using the restroom.

Section 2. Blood Exposure Procedure Standards, adopted from NIC.

(a) If a blood exposure should occur, the following steps must be followed:

(i) When possible injured party should go to a sink and rinse injury with running water and “milk” the injury if possible to remove any bacteria that may have entered the wound.
(ii) Supply injured party with antiseptic or single use packet of antibacterial ointment on the appropriate dressing to cover the injury.

(iii) Bag all blood-soiled (contaminated) porous articles and dispose of in trash. Immediately wash and disinfect all non-porous items (do not continue service with these items).

(b) The following is the responsibility of the candidate/student/licensee and should be executed as follows. Candidate, Student, License injury.

(i) Protection – if a cut is sustained, stop the service, put on gloves (if appropriate) and clean the injured area;

(ii) Apply antiseptic to the injured area;

(iii) Dressing – cover the injury with the appropriate adhesive dressing;

(iv) Cover injured area with finger guard or glove if appropriate;

(v) Bag and dispose of all contaminated single use items;

(vi) Remove gloves and wash hands;

(vii) Clean model/client;

(viii) Clean and disinfect implements and station;

(ix) Clean hands; and

(x) Return to the service.

(c) Model/Client injury

(i) Stop service;

(ii) Glove hands of candidate/student/licensee;

(iii) Clean injured area;

(iv) Apply antiseptic;
(v) Cover the injury with the appropriate dressing to prevent further blood exposure;

(vi) Bag and dispose of all contaminated single use items;

(vii) Clean and disinfect any implements or surfaces contaminated;

(viii) Clean hands; and

(ix) Return to services.

(d) Examination

(i) Examiners are to use new disposable latex gloves or non-allergenic equivalent when checking the candidate’s service. Bag and dispose used gloves;

(ii) Follow with washing hands;

(iii) Documents incident in blood exposure log; and

(iv) Do not allow containers, brushes, nozzles or liquid styptic container to touch the skin or contact the wound. Use an applicator.

Section 3. Additional Infection Control.

(a) Clippers and Trimmers

(i) All clippers and trimmers must be cleaned and disinfected after each use with disinfectant designed for clippers and trimmers, and used according to manufacturers recommendations.

(ii) Clipper wash may be used as a cleaner prior to disinfection, but is not acceptable as a disinfectant unless it is labeled as germicidal, virucidal and fungicidal with proven effectiveness against HIV, HEPB and Staphylococcus aureus (including MRSA). When labeled as such, it must be used as specified by the manufacturer.

(b) Leather Barber Strop

(i) A Leather Barber Strop is a porous items that may be used in the Barber Shop, but only if razor has been cleaned and disinfected in accordance with Section 1, item
(i) of this chapter prior to use on strop. A strop may not be used during service when the blade has come in contact with the patron.

(c) Products

(i) All lotions, waxes, creams and hair/shave preparations must be removed from the original container in a manner that does not contaminate the product remaining in the container. Bare hands may not be used to remove product from any container. Product must be removed with a spatula that is single use and disposed of after use or multi-use and disinfected after each “dip” into the container. This does not apply to items in squeeze tubes, spray bottles or shakers.

(d) Barber Chairs.

(i) All headrest of barber chairs shall be cleaned, or have a clean cover or towel between each usage. When not in use, the headrest must be kept in a clean place which is free of dust and debris.

(e) Infectious Disease.

(i) No person infected with a disease in a communicable form which can be transmitted in the course of his employment shall work in a shop or school.

(ii) Licensees shall not treat or attempt to treat any disease of the skin.

(f) All barbers shall have an adequate amount of implements so that proper disinfection can occur between customers.

(g) Coffee or other refreshments shall be served in single use containers with lids only.

(h) Restroom facilities shall be adequately supplied with disposable hand towels or dryers and liquid or powder soap.

Section 4. Prohibited equipment.

(a) Common shaving brushes;

(b) Finger bowls;

(c) Lump alum (when used for styptic purposes);
(d) Powder puffs; and

(e) Wooden handle, natural bristle neck brushes