

Regulation of Personal Services Settings

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Public Health

Ministry Protocol on Infection Prevention and Control in Personal Services Settings (PSS) applies to:

- "facility, service, person offering services where there is a risk of exposure to blood, such as, but not limited to hairdressing and barber shops, tattoo and body piercing, electrolysis and...various aesthetic services..."
- Does not apply to regulated health professionals

Mandatory responsibilities of the health unit

- Perform routine inspections for all PSS at least once a year
- Investigate complaints related to PSS

- Offer education to the general public regarding infection prevention and control for PSS
- Offer education to workers and/or operators annually
- Conduct risk assessment to determine if a health hazard exists and manage appropriately to reduce the risk
- Communicate with the affected individual(s) when investigation identifies a potential risk to their health

Why license personal service settings?

- Delivery of personal services has been associated with transmission of bloodborne infections such as hepatitis B, hepatitis C and other infectious disease organisms including *Mycobacterium spp.* and *Staphylococcus aureus* when proper infection control is not maintained
- No provincial infection prevention and control training requirements for PSS operators
- Challenges in locating PSS and inspecting before they begin operation



FIGURE. Pustules resulting from a methicillin-resistant *Staphylococcus aureus* skin infection in a tattoo recipient — Ohio, 2005



Photo/Toledo-Lucas County Health Department

Examples of PSS Related Infections



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Examples of PSS Related Infections



Image: Toronto
Public HealthPublic Opinion Survey – Key Findings

- 58% believed PSS are already licensed
- The majority supported:
 - Licensing of PSS
 - The requirements to publicly post health inspection results

- PSS workers not all adequately trained in IPAC
- Benefits of licensing, public disclosure, more stringent regulation
 - establish common standards
 - ↑ standards

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- strengthen public health & safety
- ↑ public confidence in PSS industry

Image: Toronto
Public HealthOn-Line Survey Results

- 80% agreed that all new PSS should pass a public health inspection before opening
- 84% agreed that all PSS should comply with IPAC requirements and pass an annual inspection
- 72% agreed that all PSS should publicly post their inspection notice (pass, conditional pass or fail)
- 56% agreed that licensing will improve health and safety in PSS and result in better public protection
- Concern related to the financial burden of the licence fee

Focus Groups with PSS Operators

- All identified that other businesses in their sector are not using proper IPAC practices
- Most agreed that that it was a good idea to license all PSS in order to mitigate risk of infectious disease transmission
- Requested more consistent IPAC requirements
- Areas of concern:

- the cost of licensing
- potential for over-regulation of the industry

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- PSS businesses would require a licence to operate
- A PSS business would need to be inspected by TPH prior to getting their licence
- PSS operators will be required to:
 - comply with infection prevention and control recommendations of the Medical Officer of Health
 - post their licence
 - post their most recent inspection notice (similar to the green, yellow and red DineSafe signs)
 - have whatever qualifications/certification are required by law
- Phased implementation plan over 2 years



- Licensing and Standards Committee Monday, February 4, 2013
- City Council Wednesday, February 20 and Thursday, February 21, 2013