

December 21, 2018

Reply: Toronto Public Health
CID/IC North Region
5100 Yonge Street, 2nd Floor
Toronto, ON M2N 5V7

To: Owners/Operators of Personal Service Settings in the City of Toronto

Re: Health Canada Safety Alert on Unlicensed Plasma Pens/Fibroblast Devices

We are writing to advise you of Health Canada's safety alert regarding the use of plasma pens/fibroblast devices (<https://healthykanadians.gc.ca/recall-alert-rappel-avis/hc-sc/2018/68366a-eng.php>). These devices are used for skin treatments such as eyelid lifts, wrinkle reduction and removal of moles, skin tags, scars and spots. Health Canada has not approved any plasma pens/fibroblast devices for sale in Canada. This means that these devices have not been evaluated for safety, effectiveness or quality. Health Canada has advised the public, spas and aestheticians to stop using plasma pens/fibroblasts devices.

Health Canada has advised that these devices, even if used properly, may pose health risks. The likelihood and severity of the side effects increase with duration, frequency and intensity of treatment. Toronto Public Health (TPH) is therefore advising personal services setting (PSS) operators to immediately stop using these devices. Follow up inspections by TPH will be conducted to ensure plasma pens/fibroblast devices are no longer being used in PSS. Any business found to have plasma pens/fibroblast devices on-site will be subject to an order under the Health Protection and Promotion Act.

You can check whether a medical device has been authorized by Health Canada for sale by searching Health Canada's Medical Devices Active Licence Listing: <https://www.canada.ca/en/health-canada/services/drugs-health-products/medical-devices/licences/medical-devices-active-licence-listing.html> (MDALL).

If you require further information about Health Canada's safety alert, please contact Health Canada at 1-866-225-0709 or 613-957-2991.

Sincerely,

Cecilia Alterman, MEd., CPHI (C)
Manager, BodySafe Program
Toronto Public Health

Incl. Translation flyer