



## Needle Cartridges

Needle cartridges are used by many artists and aestheticians. There are two types of needle cartridges, cartridges with a protective membrane (also known as a safety membrane or backflow preventer), and cartridges without a protective membrane.

Needle cartridges with a protective membrane reduce the risk of blood and body fluids contaminating equipment and transmitting bloodborne pathogens such as Hepatitis B, Hepatitis C and HIV

All needle cartridges that connect onto a device must have a protective membrane. **Proof that the cartridge has a protective membrane is required on-site at the personal service setting.**

### Acceptable proof that a cartridge has a protective membrane:

- It is written on the box the cartridge comes in.
- It is written on the individual needle cartridge sterile container/package.
- It is written on the manufacturer's website for that specific cartridge.
- Written communication from the manufacturer such as an email.

Information provided by suppliers or retailers is not accepted as proof.

### Remember:

- *Always* use individually pre-packaged and sterile needle cartridges.
- Double-check that the packaging has not been compromised.
- Open packages in front of your client.
- When any commercially purchased sterile items arrive onsite, record the details on the 'Commercially Purchased Prepackaged and Sterile Items Records'. A [sample record is available](#).
- Open packages in front of your client.
- Record each needle cartridge lot number on the client record. Records should be kept for three years with a minimum of year (365) on-site. A [sample invasive client record is available](#).
- Immediately discard the used cartridge into an approved sharps container. Do not reuse.
- The machine, grip tube/sleeve, clip cord, pigment bottles and squirt bottles used during the service must be covered with a single-use, disposable protective cover. Once the cover is discarded the item is to be cleaned and disinfected with an intermediate level disinfectant.