

MICROPIGMENTATION AND MICROBLADING (PERMANENT MAKEUP)

Micropigmentation and microblading are ways of depositing colour into the skin in order to look like makeup. These personal services are often called permanent or semi-permanent makeup. A needle or blade are used to pierce the skin to insert pigment under the skin's top layer. Permanent makeup is often used to define eyebrows, lips, eyelids (eyeliner) and eyelashes.

INFECTION RISKS

Disease-causing microorganisms can enter the tissue under the skin or mucous membrane at the procedure site and cause an infection. Equipment can become contaminated with bacteria, fungi and viral blood borne disease-causing microorganisms such as hepatitis B virus, hepatitis C virus or human immunodeficiency virus (HIV). Infections can spread from:

- Contaminated and/or improperly reprocessed equipment or pigment ink
- Tap water used to dilute the pigment ink
- Client's own bacteria on the skin
- Unclean hands touching the treatment area

INFECTION PREVENTION AND CONTROL REQUIREMENTS

Equipment:

- Single-use, disposable sterile needles must be kept sterile until point of use and discarded into an approved sharps container immediately after use. Needles are not to be used beyond the date of expiry indicated by the manufacturer. Do not use needles if there are no expiry dates and lot numbers
- Needle cartridges for needle styled pens must be equipped with a form of backflow prevention
- Needles are not to be saved for reuse on the same client
- Sharps containers must be stored at point of use
- All reusable equipment/instruments/items are to be reprocessed after each use
- Items that cannot be reprocessed are to be discarded after use (e.g., plastic ink caps)
- Single-use ink caps provided in bulk are to be cleaned with soap and water and disinfected before use. Use an intermediate-level disinfectant such as 70% isopropyl alcohol (which has a natural product number)

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- All supplies required for the micropigmentation procedure are to be assembled and set-up immediately before the procedure
- All reusable uncovered equipment and instruments such as clip cords, contact screws, service trays, squeeze bottles, electric devices, machines and controls must be cleaned and disinfected with an intermediate-level solution between clients. If they are covered by a single-use wrap, they may be cleaned and disinfected with a low-level disinfectant
- Materials used for dressings are to be kept in a cleanable rigid container with a tight-fitting lid to protect from contamination
- Leftover pigment ink, petroleum jelly and other items dispensed during the micropigmentation procedure are to be discarded and are not to be reused

Operational Requirements:

- Micropigmentation should not be performed on a client if nearby skin (within 15 cm/6 inches) has a rash or is inflamed or infected. If this is not possible, service must be delayed until the area has healed
- Skin that is visibly soiled must be cleaned with soap and water before starting the procedure
- Operators are to apply skin antiseptic to the area of the client's skin that is being treated
- Only topical local anesthetic approved for use by Health Canada is permitted. The site is to be cleaned with a suitable skin antiseptic before applying the anesthetic. Note: Injectable anesthetic is prohibited
- If hair removal is required, a single-use razor is to be used and discarded in an approved sharps container
- Clients are to be provided with verbal and written aftercare information following the procedure, including a recommendation to see a doctor within 24 hours if any signs of infection develop

Reprocessing Classification

Sterilization	Low-Level Disinfection	Single-Use, Disposable
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Reusable grips*, and tips* • Reusable ink caps* (metal) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Micropigmentation machine pen which is covered with a single-use cover • Measuring calipers • Tables, chairs, beds • Rigid containers used to hold dirty equipment until reprocessing (at end of day) • Service trays ‡ • Squeeze bottles 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Numbing cream • Lubricant applicators • Micropigmentation needles • Microblades • Marking pens • Needle cartridges • Plastic covers • Razors • Single-use ink caps** • Single-use rinse cups • Ointment applicators • Single-use personal protective equipment (gloves, masks, gowns, eye protection) • Wipes, tissues, and dental bibs

*These items are to be sterile before use

** These items are to be intermediate-level disinfected before use

‡ If covered with a sheath/cover during use; if not, reprocess as a non-critical, intermediate-level disinfection item as long as it can be easily or adequately cleaned and disinfected between each use

SOURCES

1. Ontario Agency for Health Protection and Promotion (Public Health Ontario). Guide to infection prevention and control in personal service settings. 3rd ed. Toronto, ON: Queen's Printer for Ontario; 2019