

Our goal as a national organization is to support estheticians and help provide information to keep you safe. Our current challenge, COVID-19 also known as the Corona Virus poses a high risk for Estheticians and their clients. Here are some infection control guidelines to adopt during this pandemic to keep yourself and your client safe while performing services. We are breaking the guidelines into two sections:

- Service Guidelines
- Environmental Disinfection Guidelines

Service Guidelines:

- If you have any symptoms, stay home and contact your doctor or local health department
- Avoid touching your face even with gloves on
- If you are self-employed, be sure to communicate with your clients about cancellation notice as well as what your disinfection procedures are. *Esthetics Council is offering a sanitation verification that can be shared with your client after taking additional education and passing a test.*
- If you are an employer, we urge you to waive cancellation and re-booking fees, allow for additional time between services to fully disinfect the area or hire support that can assist estheticians turn a room quickly and safely while maintaining retail sales.
- We recommend having multiple sets of tools, supplies, and linens available to speed up treatment room turn.
- If you have access to an autoclave, use it for all metal implements/tools.

Prior to service:

- All surfaces, devices, linens, & tools should be cleaned and disinfected.
*See environmental guidelines
- Wash hands thoroughly
 - use a nail brush,
 - do not use an antibacterial soap,
 - use a disposable towel to dry hands and discard in a closed trash can.
 - Minimum time is 20 seconds.
Note: be sure to keep your hands moisturized, excessive dryness will impact the skin's barrier which can be a route for infection.
 - When using an alcohol hand sanitizer minimum time is 20 seconds until dry
- Treatment room can be set up at this time
- Do not shake hands or touch your client when initially greeting them

During the Service:

- Wear gloves before touching your client, change them as needed. Use close fitting Nitrile gloves to avoid possible allergic reactions to Latex.
- Wear a mask if available. Note: there is a shortage at this time, the goal of wearing a mask is to protect your client from respiratory droplets that you can spread regardless of your infection status. It will NOT protect you from getting the COVID-19 virus. A face shield can be worn if a mask is unavailable, be sure to fully disinfect after use.
- Discard used porous supplies immediately after use in a closed trash container
- Place all non-porous tools immediately after use into a closed container labelled dirty.
- Do NOT dispense product directly from the container onto the client's face. Place products into a small bowls or ramekins before placing on cart.
 - Note: Makeup Services- use a spatula to dispense color onto a pallet do NOT work directly from the tester. NEVER use the back of your hand to mix color or test before applying. Use disposable brushes where available, you will go through makeup brushes when you are disinfecting often, this is part of the cost of supplies per service.

After the Service

- Immediately remove all linens and place into a closed hamper or directly into the washing machine, this can happen after you escort your client out of the room.
- Follow disinfection procedures for your tools and devices. In general:
 - Non-porous items (brushes, spatulas, metal tools): Clean with soap and water, dry, immerse in EPA approved disinfectant for recommended time, remove, rinse, dry and place in closed container.
 - Porous items: Discard immediately into closed trash container.
- Wash your hands after the service, this can be after the checkout completed.
- If taking payment by credit card, key in the number to avoid client touching terminal

Environmental Guidelines-Use gloves for all surface cleaning

Devices:

- Wipe down device case, electrode handles and wires with a disinfectant wipe.
- Electrodes, tips and anything else in contact with the client should be disinfected using non-porous tool instructions. Leave metal conductors out of the solution to avoid corrosion (this is never in contact with the client)
- Place all electrodes, handles, tips etc. in a closed container marked "clean" after drying
- Empty your steamer at the end of every day
- Disinfect the interior of your Hot Cabinet and leave door open to dry
- Use a wax collar and dispose of after each waxing service, always use disposable applicators and discard immediately after use. NEVER double dip.

Surfaces:

- Clean surface
- Spray with an EPA registered disinfectant (bactericidal, viricidal and fungicidal)-be sure to leave wet for full contact time listed on label
- Wipe clean with paper towel and discard in a closed trash container
- Product bottles should be wiped down with a disinfectant wipe – also following full contact time.
- Mop floor at end of the day, a disposable floor cleaner (i.e. Swiffer) can be used

Linens:

- Use bleach or other EPA registered disinfectant laundry additive. Follow manufacturer instructions for correct water temperature.
- Place in dryer immediately after wash cycle is done-do not leave in washer overnight
- Fold and place clean linens in closed cabinets or other storage area.
- Wear a uniform and wash nightly. Multiple uniforms or smocks may be needed if laundry cannot be done daily.

Most of these guidelines are practices you already use daily. Adding these additional steps should help comfort your client as well as provide you protection as we learn more about this virus. Be sure to let your clients, community and co-workers/staff know how you are taking additional steps to protect everyone. Disinfection is the new essential skill to master!

Terms you need to know:

Porous Items-items that must be discarded. (i.e. cotton rounds, gauze pads, eye pads, disposable sponges etc.)

Linens/towels are the only exception

Non-Porous items- that can be disinfected (i.e. extractor tools, synthetic brushes, plastic spatulas, glass electrodes etc.)

Face Shield-plastic shield attached to head gear



Questions? Contact Esthetics Council: info@estheticscouncil.org or www.estheticscouncil.org

CDC www.cdc.gov or your state health department