

PUBLIC PROTECTION DIVISION
222 UPPER STREET, LONDON N1 1XR
STANDARD CONDITIONS
FOR PREMISES PROVIDING EAR & NOSE PIERCING (LR)
London Local Authorities Act 1991-2000

These conditions are to be read in conjunction with the Standard Conditions for Special Treatment Premises. Other conditions may be added to licences if circumstances warrant this.

Definitions

Ear piercing:

Refers to lower ear lobe piercing and upper ear cartilage piercing only

Nose piercing:

Refers to the piercing of the nasal cavity walls only.

EAR & NOSE PIERCING – LOW RISK

CONSULTATION

1. The licensee and staff performing body piercing should be able to demonstrate knowledge of the possible contra-indications to the treatment and should discuss with the client his or her medical history to include the following conditions:
 - a) Eczema;
 - b) Psoriasis;
 - c) Haemophilia;
 - d) High/low blood pressure;
 - e) Epilepsy;
 - f) Diabetes; and
 - g) Allergies.They should also determine if the client is:
 - h) Taking medication or blood thinning agents.Where any of the above conditions exist, written consent from the clients GP must be given before any tattooing is carried out.
2. The consultation should detail:
 - a) Area to be pierced;
 - b) Treatment plan;
 - c) Date of piercing;
 - d) Date of birth of the client;
 - e) Proof of ID shown where requested;
 - f) Record that aftercare advice/leaflet given; and
 - g) Name of piercer that carried out the treatment.
3. The consultation record should be signed by either the client or their parent/guardian as a declaration of agreement to the treatment, having understood all the associated risks.

4. The consultation records must be available for inspection on the request of an authorised officer and be retained for a minimum of two years.

AGE

5. Clients must be over the age 16 to request an ear or nose piercing and must provide acceptable photographic identification as proof of age on request.
6. Clients under the age of 16 must be accompanied by a parent or guardian who must sign the appropriate consent forms.
7. Any person wishing to receive a licensable treatment will need to provide proof of their age if they look under 25.
8. Licensees must advertise this policy so that all clients are made aware that they may be challenged about their age if they look under 25.
9. Acceptable forms of ID are accredited proof of age cards e.g. Citizencard, a Passport, or UK Driving Licence bearing the photograph and date of birth of the bearer a photo driving licence, passport or the PASS hologram proof of age card.
10. Where a challenge is made, it must be recorded and proof age also noted on the client consultation record.

EQUIPMENT

11. Piercing guns designed for ear piercing must only be used on the outer perimeter and lobe of the ear, unless the instrument clearly states otherwise.
12. Piercing guns used for nose piercing should be designed for the purpose and be capable of piercing the nasal cavity wall with the nose stud without the need for a clasp/butterfly clip.
13. The piercing gun should be an appropriate one such as the Coren (Newton Laboratories), the Medisept (Studex Manufacturing UK Ltd.) or the Blomdahl (Poly [UK] Ltd.).
14. Ear piercing instruments must be cleaned between uses, on each client, by thoroughly wiping down with an approved disinfectant immediately e.g. 70% alcohol.

JEWELLERY

15. All jewellery which may come into contact with broken skin or mucosa membranes must be sterile.
16. All jewellery must be of a suitable grade e.g. surgical stainless steel, solid 14K or 18K gold, niobium, titanium, platinum, or dense low porosity plastic. This is to minimise the risk of allergic reaction, harbouring of bacteria or adhesion to newly formed skin.

METHOD

17. Each operator is to maintain an acceptable standard of personal cleanliness at all times. Operator's hands should be washed with liquid soap and hot water and dried with disposable paper towel.
18. All piercers must wear disposable gloves and they should be disposed of after each client.
19. If the skin is to be marked for piercing it should be done prior to the cleansing of the skin. The marking should be done with a fine indelible pen (preferably gentian violet).
20. The skin in the area of the piercing must be intact. The skin shall be cleansed with a suitable disinfectant such as 70% ethanol or isopropyl alcohol swabs.
21. Only pre-sterilised single use studs from undamaged packaging may be used.
22. Studs must be opened immediately prior to use in front of the client.

23. All work surfaces must be cleaned and disinfected after each client.
24. There must be a written procedure for dealing with blood spillages. All staff must be made aware of this procedure.
25. There must be a written procedure for dealing with needle/ sharps injuries.
26. All staff must be made aware of the procedure.
27. Clients must be given verbal and written after care advice. This should also include advice of any possible complications.

USE OF ANAESTHETICS

28. Only operators who have attended an appropriate course on use of topical anaesthetics will be permitted to use them.
29. The use of anaesthetic injections is not permitted.