

# Opening an Invasive Personal Service Facility

## 1. Introduction

A **personal service facility** offers services such as body piercing, tattooing services, electrolysis, manicures/pedicures, and hair cutting/styling, to the public.

Invasive personal service procedures introduce equipment or instruments into the body or body cavities, by cutting, puncturing, or otherwise entering intact skin or mucous membranes.

Bloodborne and other infections may be transmitted through personal service procedures to clients and/or to persons providing personal services. The type of health risk depends on the invasive nature of the service, e.g., surface treatments vs. procedures that puncture the skin. Exposure to blood or body fluids can occur through skin penetration or mucous membrane contact. This exposure may result in a variety of infections, including but not limited to Hepatitis B virus, Hepatitis C virus, Human Immunodeficiency Virus, Herpes Simplex Virus as well as fungal and bacterial infections of the skin and blood.

*The Health Hazard Regulations under The Public Health Act, 1994* require personal service facilities to be operated in a hygienic manner and in a manner that prevents or minimizes the risk of transmission of disease to clients and/or individuals providing personal services. This fact sheet and the Saskatchewan Personal Service Facility Best Management Practices (BMPs) have been developed to assist operators to meet regulatory requirements.

Anyone considering opening, renovating, or operating a personal service facility that offers invasive personal service procedures, excluding ear lobe piercing using a piercing gun, must contact a public health inspector with the Saskatchewan Health Authority prior to commencing construction and/or operations.

Anyone considering establishing, renovating, or operating a personal service facility should be aware that, in addition to health requirements, approvals from other ministries, agencies and/or local municipalities may be required. These approvals may be required to address permitting and/or assessment of building, fire, accessibility, plumbing, etc.

**The construction and establishment of a well-designed, constructed, and operated personal service facility will prevent or minimize the risk of transmitting communicable diseases to the clients and the persons providing personal services.**

## 2. Site and Plan Review

The improper operation of personal service facilities may lead to the spread of disease(s) or infection through unsanitary conditions, improper design/materials and/or cross contamination by instruments/equipment, and person-to-person transmission between providers and clients. Prior to the construction, renovation or operation of a personal service facility that offers invasive personal services, excluding ear lobe piercing using a piercing gun, submit plans to a Public Health Inspector with the Saskatchewan Health Authority for review.

Plans should include:

- a list of the services to be offered;
- a scaled layout of the facility identifying the intended purpose of all areas/rooms;
- the location of handwashing sinks and the sinks dedicated to cleaning instruments and equipment;
- a list of construction materials used for floors, walls and work surfaces, e.g., counters, tables, chairs, etc.;
- details on lighting, ventilation, and plumbing; and,
- procedures describing cleaning, disinfection and/or sterilization processes (including an equipment list).

If plans do not meet the intent of the regulations, changes may be required; plans may need to be resubmitted for further review.

### **3. Design, Construction and Equipment Requirements for Personal Service Facilities**

**Unless otherwise approved by the Saskatchewan Health Authority, the following minimum requirements should be met when designing, constructing, and equipping personal service facilities that will be providing invasive services.**

#### **Water Supply**

- An adequate supply of potable hot and cold running water to plumbing fixtures.
- A backflow prevention device where contaminated water could enter the water system.

#### **Separation/Space Requirements**

- Client service areas are to be separate from areas used for living, dining, sleeping and any other incompatible activities.
- The personal service procedure areas are to be of adequate size and appropriate for the service provided.
- If the facility is intended to accommodate more than one personal service station, it is to be of adequate size to prevent cross-contamination between adjacent services.
- A designated storage area, separate from procedure areas, is to be provided for the storage of staff members' belongings.

#### **Hand Washing Stations**

- A minimum of one hand washing sink, easily accessible from every workstation.
- The hand washing sink is to be:
  - supplied with paper towels in a dispenser, dispensable liquid soap, and a trash bin accessible without using hands;
  - separate from the hand sinks in the washroom facilities and separate from sinks used to clean instruments and equipment;
  - accessible without touching door handles or curtains or having to pass through another personal service procedure area; and
  - exclusive to the personal service facility and not to be used by another facility, operation, or business.

#### **Cleaning, Disinfection and Sterilization Equipment**

- Cleaning, and disinfecting or sterilizing requirements will depend on the type of instrument or equipment being used.
- Dedicated cleaning sinks (different from the hand washing station(s)), soaking trays, ultrasonic cleaners, and sterilizers are examples of equipment needed to properly clean and disinfect or sterilize.
- Cleaning must always be completed before disinfection or sterilization.
- Cleaning sinks should be large enough to accommodate the largest instrument and/or piece of equipment to be cleaned.

#### **Ventilation**

- The ventilation system should be capable of removing any hazardous and/or objectionable airborne contaminants to the outdoors.

#### **Finishing Materials**

- Floor and wall surfaces should be smooth, impervious, and easily cleanable.
- Surfaces and equipment in the premises should be made of materials that can be easily cleaned and disinfected.

#### **Lighting**

- Lighting, equipped with shatterproof bulbs, shields, or covers, should be bright enough to facilitate cleaning, prevent injuries and to safely complete personal service procedures.

#### **Storage Areas**

- Cabinets and/or shelves of sufficient size?? should be provided for the storage of personal service instruments, equipment, and supplies.

### Laundry

- Laundry should be done onsite at facility, if possible. If laundry is transported it must be done so in a way that prevents contamination.

### Instruments and Equipment

- All instruments, equipment, devices, and tools used in the personal service facility are to be of durable construction, used for their intended purpose, maintained in a clean and sanitary condition, and be in good repair.
- A puncture resistant container must be provided and used for the disposal of sharps waste.

### Janitorial Facilities/Supplies

- The safe disposal of chemicals, mop water, and other waste should be supported by constructed and procedural measures to prevent injury and contamination of personal service tools and equipment.
- Designated storage areas, separate from procedure areas, should be provided for the storage of brooms, mops, pails, and cleaning supplies, when not in use.

### Washroom Facilities

- Access to a public washroom for clients is recommended but may be required by the local municipal authority.
- Washroom facilities may also be required for employees. Contact the Ministry of Labour Relations and Workplace Safety for details:

<http://www.saskatchewan.ca/government/government-structure/ministries/labour-relations-and-workplace-safety>

## 4. Personal Services Operating at Temporary Locations

Owners/operators considering providing invasive personal services at a temporary location, e.g., tradeshow, public event, etc., should contact the local public health inspection office at least two weeks prior to commencement of temporary operations.

**Questions?** Contact your local Public Health Inspector. The link below provides contact information for **public health inspection offices** throughout the province:

<https://www.saskatchewan.ca/residents/health/public-health/public-health-inspectors>

**NOTE:** This information was updated in November 2024. Visit the Ministry of Health website to view the most recent version of this document, other facts sheets, and the Saskatchewan Personal Service Facility Best Management Practices at:

<https://www.saskatchewan.ca/residents/environment-public-health-and-safety/environmental-health/personal-service-facilities>