

Infectious Diseases Infection Prevention And Control In Personal Services Settings Protocol

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November 25, 2008

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Purpose

- This Protocol has been developed to provide direction to boards of health to minimize the risk of contracting blood-borne and other types of infections for both clients and personal service workers during the delivery of personal services.
- This Protocol applies to any facility, service, or person offering services where there is a risk of exposure to blood, such as, but not limited to hairdressing and barber shops, tattoo and body piercing studios, electrolysis, acupuncture, and various aesthetic services. This Protocol also applies to “special events,” such as trade shows, conventions, fairs, or exhibitions.

Requirements Listed in Standard

Standard

- Infectious Diseases Prevention and Control

Requirements:

- Requirement #10: The board of health shall ensure that the medical officer of health or designate receives reports of and responds to complaints regarding infection prevention and control practices in settings for which no regulatory bodies exist, particularly personal services settings. This shall be done in accordance with the *Infection Prevention and Control in Personal Services Settings Protocol, 2008* (or as current) and the *Infection Prevention and Control Practices Complaint Protocol, 2008* (or as current).
- Requirement #14: The board of health shall inspect settings associated with risk of infectious diseases of public health importance in accordance with the *Infection Prevention and Control in Licensed Day Nurseries Protocol, 2008* (or as current); the *Infection Prevention and Control in Personal Services Settings Protocol, 2008* (or as current); and the *Risk Assessment and Inspection of Facilities Protocol, 2008* (or as current).

Protocol Highlights

Inspection

- In addition to annual inspection, conduct inspections in response to complaints or if non-compliance to infection prevention and control issues were identified during annual inspection.

Protocol Highlights

Management

- Offer education to public in regards to infection prevention and control practices in Personal Services Settings (PSSs).
- Offer annual education to Personal Service Workers (PSWs)/operators in regards to Infection Prevention and Control (IPAC) practices.
- What to do if the risk of communicable disease transmission has been identified.
- Outlines information that can be requested by health unit when conducting risk assessments in regards to failed/missing spore tests.

Cross References

- Infection Prevention and Control Practices Complaints Protocol, 2008

Supporting Documentation

- Infection Prevention and Control Best Practices in Personal Services Settings (to be released January 2009).
- Inspection tool and supporting document (included with Best Practices document).
- Fact sheets for PSWs/operators.
- To be developed: Pamphlets for the general public.

Highlights/Discussion

- Not limited to blood borne infections.
- Frequent reference to new best practices document.
- Yearly education of PSWs/operators and public.
- Outlines component of investigation and information to be requested by health units for specific investigations.
- Supporting Best Practices document has been developed.

Questions & Answers

- **Q: What are the changes from the 1998 version of the Protocol entitled “Personal Services Setting Protocol, 1998”?**

A: Some significant changes include:

- The Protocol is not limited to blood borne infections and includes other types of infections.
- An updated support document entitled *Infection Prevention and Control Best Practices for Personal Services Settings* (December 2008).
- Yearly education of PSWs/operators to be conducted.
- Education of the general public to be conducted.
- Outlines component of investigation and information to be requested by health units for specific investigations.

Questions and Answers

- **Q: How are health units expected to conduct yearly education of personal service workers and operators?**

A: Yearly education can be conducted during yearly inspection. A series of fact sheets has been developed for this purpose and can be adapted by each health unit as they see fit. The fact sheets are included the new *Infection Prevention and Control Best Practices for Personal Services Settings* (December 2008).

- **Q: Will the Best Practices document be available for health units to use when implementing the Personal Services Settings Protocol?**

A: Yes, Best Practices document will be available in January 2009 in conjunction with the effective date of the Protocol (January 1, 2009).

Questions & Answers

- **Q: Is there a template available to outline how health units should be conducting inspections of personal services settings?**

A: Yes, to support the Personal Services Settings Protocol and the Best Practices document, a sample inspection tool has been developed (included in Best Practices), which can be modified by each health unit.

- **Q: Are there other documents being developed to support implementation of this Protocol?**

A: Currently the Ministry, in conjunction with a number of health unit partners, is working on public information pamphlets, designed to educate the public in regards to appropriate infection prevention and control practices in personal services settings (in progress).

- **Any additional questions?**

Acknowledgements

- Ms. Lucie Imbiscuso, Wellington-Dufferin-Guelph Public Health Unit
- Mr. Christian Lapensee, Ottawa Public Health
- Ms. Lisa Penney, Toronto Public Health
- Ms. Selina Pittman, York Region Health Services

Acknowledgements

- Ms. Cecilia Alterman, Toronto Public Health
- Ms. Mary-Anne Carson, Halton Region Health Department
- Ms. Dorothy Galantai, Region of Waterloo, Public Health
- Mr. Peter Heywood, Region of Waterloo, Public Health
- Mr. Jim Kalogritsas, Simcoe Muskoka District Health Unit
- Mr. Burgess Hawkins, Halton Region Health Department
- Ms. Penny Lewick, Halton Region Health Department
- Mr. Bernie Mayer, Simcoe Muskoka District Health Unit
- Ms. Anna Miranda, Toronto Public Health
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