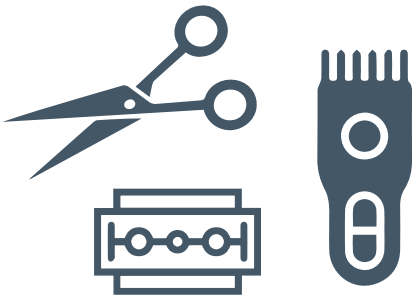
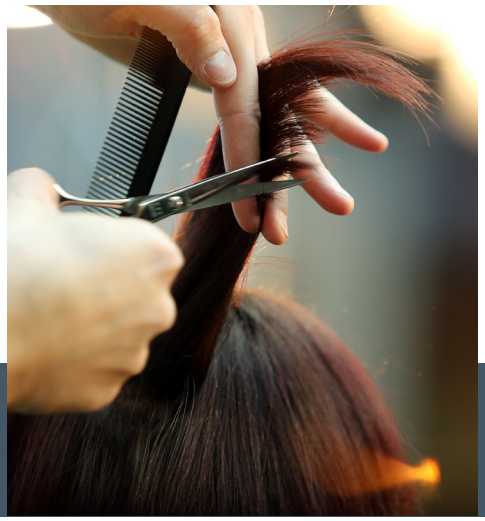
Ask You're Worth!t WSCC

HAIR STYLISTS **TOOLBOX TALK**

BLOODBORNE PATHOGENS



Hairdressers and their clients can be exposed to viruses and bacteria that can cause diseases such as HIV, AIDS, and hepatitis. These diseases can be life-threatening and are more common than one might anticipate. If you cut the hair of 12 clients a day, you'll come into contact with someone with hepatitis C 40 times in one year. Pathogens are spread by direct contact with the body fluids, particularly blood, of an infected person.



SAFETY **TIPS**

1. Wear gloves while you are working.
2. Ensure that scissors and razors are disinfected. Consider using disposable razors.
   - Equipment can be disinfected using steam, antibacterial solutions, or antibacterial wipes.
   - Equipment should be disinfected after each customer, and left in an antibacterial solution overnight.
   - Equipment should be sterilized, particularly if the client's skin has been cut.
3. Always wash your hands after contact with blood, and after removing gloves.
4. Check your hands for cuts and abrasions before work and cover them with waterproof dressings.
5. Wash your hands before and after eating, drinking, smoking, and going to the toilet.
6. Treat all body fluids, such as blood, as potentially infectious.
7. Make sure all sharp equipment (such as disposable razors) is disposed of in a safe manner.
8. Report any incidents of possible infection transmission to your supervisor.
9. Get medical attention immediately if you are exposed to blood known to be infectious.

BLOODBORNE PATHOGENS ▪ AGENTS PATHOGÈNES TRANSMISSIBLES PAR LE SANG ▪ AUNGNINGAQTUT HALUMAILGUT ▪ ᐊᐅᒻᒥᖕᒐᖅᑐᑦ ᐋᓐᓂᐊᑖᕐᓇᖅᑐᑦ

Adapted with permission from WorkSafeBC.

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