

## Chapter Cos 4

### SANITATION AND SAFETY

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**Note:** Chapter BC 4 was renumbered ch. Cos 4 under s. 13.92 (4) (b) 1., Stats., Register February 2013 No. 686.

**Note:** See Chapter SPS 50 for rules governing the licensing of barbers, barbering managers, and barbering establishments.

**Cos 4.01 Equipment and sanitation.** (1) All areas of an establishment, or the area of practice outside of an establishment in accordance with the applicable standards, and the equipment, tools, and implements used by licensees, shall be maintained in a clean, sanitary, and safe condition.

(2) Licensees shall wash their hands thoroughly with soap and running water prior to serving each patron and following removal of gloves. Waterless hand washing agents with alcohol as an active ingredient with a concentration of at least 60% are an acceptable substitute for washing hands that are not visibly soiled with soap and running water.

(3) All tools, implements and items that come in direct contact with a client shall be cleaned and disinfected or disposed of after use on each client.

(3g) All non-disposable, disinfected manicure tools and implements shall be cleaned and disinfected with a disinfectant as defined in s. Cos 1.01 (6), after use on each client.

(3r) All items designed to be disposed of after a single use including orangewood sticks, cotton, gauze, neck strips, nail wipes, tissues, sponges, paper towels, wooden applicators and spatulas, emery boards, buffer blocks, sanding bands or sleeves, and disposable nail bits shall be disposed of after each use.

(4) All liquids, creams, powders and semi-solid substances shall be dispensed from a container in a manner which will prevent contamination of the unused portion of the substance.

(5) Shampoo bowls and basins shall be drained after each use and kept in a sanitary and safe condition.

(6) Clean towels shall be used for each patron. A neckstrip or towel shall be placed around the neck of the patron to prevent contact with the cape. The head rest of any operating chair shall be covered with fresh linen or paper for each patron.

(7) All other equipment and instruments shall be clean to sight and touch.

(8) Licensees using lancets for the lateral piercing of raised whiteheads shall utilize only pre-sterilized, single use, disposable lancets.

**History:** Cr. Register, July, 1989, No. 403, eff. 8-1-89; cr. (2), Register, May, 1999, No. 521, eff. 6-1-99; CR 02-058: am. (2), cr. (3) to (7) Register September 2003 No. 573, eff. 10-1-03; CR 05-118: am. (2), cr. (8) Register November 2006 No. 611, eff. 12-1-06; CR 15-035: am. (2), r. (3), cr. (3), (3g), (3r) Register December 2015 No. 720, eff. 1-1-16; CR 20-025: am. (1), (3r) Register July 2021 No. 787, eff. 8-1-21.

**Cos 4.02 Disinfection.** (1) Unless sterilized, disinfection is required prior to reuse on another patron of any personal care instruments, including scissors, razors, clipper blades and tweezers, excluding tweezers used in electrolysis.

(2) Disinfection for scissors, razors, clipper blades and tweezers shall consist of cleaning with soap and water to remove all organic material, wiping with or soaking in a disinfectant as defined in s. Cos 1.01, and air-drying.

(3) Disinfection for combs, lifts, brushes, rollers and any other contact equipment shall consist of cleaning with soap and water to remove all organic material, treating with a disinfectant as defined in s. Cos 1.01, and air-drying.

(4) Clean and disinfected contact equipment shall be placed in one or more covered containers. One or more separate containers shall be provided for the immediate storage of soiled contact equipment until cleaned and disinfected.

(5) Disinfectant used for decontamination shall be changed daily and shall be kept in a covered container.

(6) Laundry shall be disinfected by washing with a solution containing a germicidal compound.

**Note:** Chlorine Bleach and Lysol® (brown bottle) are germicidal compounds.

**History:** Cr. Register, July, 1989, No. 403, eff. 8-1-89; am. (1) and (2), Register, May, 1993, No. 449, eff. 6-1-93; am. (2), Register, March, 1994, No. 459, eff. 4-1-94; am. (3) and (4), cr. (3) (a) (b) and (3a), Register, May, 1999, No. 521, eff. 6-1-99; CR 02-058: r. and recr. Register September 2003 No. 573, eff. 10-1-03; CR 05-118: am. (1) Register November 2006 No. 611, eff. 12-1-06; corrections in (2), (3) made under s. 13.92 (4) (b) 7., Stats., Register February 2013 No. 686; CR 15-035: am. (3) Register December 2015 No. 720, eff. 1-1-16.

**Cos 4.03 Sterilization.** (1) Sterilization in ss. Cos 4.07, 4.09 and 4.10 shall be accomplished by use of a dry heat or steam sterilizer cleared for marketing by the food and drug administration, used according to manufacturer's instructions. If steam sterilization, moist heat, is utilized, heat exposure shall be at a minimum of 121° C., 250° F., for at least 30 minutes. If dry heat sterilization is utilized, heat exposure shall be at a minimum of 171° C., 340° F., for at least 60 minutes.

(2) Sterilizers shall be maintained in working order. Equipment shall be checked in compliance with manufacturer's recommendations at least monthly to ensure that it is reaching required temperatures.

**History:** Cr. Register, July, 1989, No. 403, eff. 8-1-89; am. (1), Register, May, 1993, No. 449, eff. 6-1-93; am. Register, May, 1999, No. 521, eff. 6-1-99; CR 02-058: am. Register September 2003 No. 573, eff. 10-1-03; CR 05-118: am. (2) Register November 2006 No. 611, eff. 12-1-06; correction in (1) made under s. 13.92 (4) (b) 7., Stats., Register February 2013 No. 686.

**Cos 4.04 Supplies.** (1) All establishments shall supply each licensee with at least one of the antiseptics listed in s. Cos 4.05.

(2) All licensees working in a licensed establishment shall be supplied with bandages and disposable gloves.

(3) Licensees providing services outside of an establishment shall have available with them at least one of the antiseptics listed in s. Cos 4.05 and have a reasonable supply of bandages and disposable gloves.

**History:** Cr. Register, July, 1989, No. 403, eff. 8-1-89; am. (1), Register, May, 1999, No. 521, eff. 6-1-99; CR 02-058: am. (1) Register September 2003 No. 573,

eff. 10-1-03; correction in (1) made under s. 13.92 (4) (b) 7., Stats., Register February 2013 No. 686; CR 15-035: am. (1) Register December 2015 No. 720, eff. 1-1-16; correction in (1) made under s. 35.17, Stats., Register December 2015 No. 720; CR 20-025: cr. (3) Register July 2021 No. 787, eff. 8-1-21.

**Cos 4.045 Prohibited materials.** Cosmetologists, aestheticians, electrologists, or manicurists may not use pumice stones or credo razors when providing services.

**History:** CR 20-025: cr. Register July 2021 No. 787, eff. 8-1-21.

**Cos 4.05 Procedure for exposure to blood.** (1) In the case of any patron injury, such as a scissors cut, razor cut, needle stick, laceration or other exposure to blood, broken skin, or a mucous membrane, the licensee shall do all of the following:

- (a) Stop service.
- (b) Put gloves on hands.
- (c) Assist the client with rinsing the exposed area using soap and water. Pat dry with a towel.
- (d) Provide the patron with disinfectant such as iodine, 70% isopropyl alcohol, or 6% stabilized hydrogen peroxide or equivalent.
- (e) Provide the patron with an adhesive bandage if appropriate.
- (f) Dispose of single-use items in the trash container and clean and disinfect all implements.
- (g) Clean and disinfect the workstation.
- (h) Remove gloves and wash hands before resuming service.

(2) In the case of any licensee injury that may expose a patron to blood, broken skin, or a mucous membrane, the licensee shall do all of the following:

- (a) Stop service.
- (b) Explain the situation to the patron.
- (c) Rinse the area with soap and water.
- (d) Apply disinfectant such as iodine, 70% isopropyl alcohol, or 6% stabilized hydrogen peroxide or equivalent.
- (e) Apply an adhesive bandage.
- (f) Dispose of single-use items in the trash container.
- (g) Put gloves on hands.
- (h) Clean and disinfect all implements and clean and disinfect the workstation.
- (i) Replace gloves and return to service.

(3) A licensed establishment shall post a written protocol describing the procedure for unintentional occupational exposure to bodily fluids described in subs. (1) and (2). The protocol shall be posted in a place conspicuous to licensees.

**History:** CR 20-025: r. and recr. Register July 2021 No. 787, eff. 8-1-21.

**Cos 4.06 Precautionary procedures.** (1) A licensee shall cover any abrasions, oozing or open lesions or wounds on his or her hands or forearms prior to patron contact. If a licensee has oozing or open lesions or weeping dermatitis on his or her hands or forearms that cannot be effectively covered, the licensee shall refrain from direct patron contact until the condition has been resolved.

(2) A licensee shall use disposable protective gloves when dealing with patrons with oozing or open lesions or weeping dermatitis. These gloves shall be changed between patrons and disposed of after use. Gloves shall be removed upon completion of patron services, and hands washed after glove removal.

**Note:** It is recommended that licensees use protective gloves in handling caustic chemicals such as permanent waving solution and neutralizer or hair straightening preparations. The handling of these substances without protection can cause skin damage which may provide a route for infection to be transmitted to the licensee.

(3) Licensees shall carefully bag and dispose of paper products contaminated with blood and thoroughly cleanse and disin-

fect linens contaminated with blood in accordance with s. Cos 4.02 (6).

**Note:** Paper products contaminated with blood may be disposed of in the regular trash unless saturated with blood. See s. NR 526.05 (Department of Natural Resources).

**History:** Cr. Register, July, 1989, No. 403, eff. 8-1-89; am. (2), Register, May, 1999, No. 521, eff. 6-1-99; CR 05-118: am. (3) Register November 2006 No. 611, eff. 12-1-06; correction in (3) made under s. 13.92 (4) (b) 7., Stats., Register February 2013 No. 686.

**Cos 4.07 Ear piercing.** Ear piercing may be performed by non-licensees, but licensees performing ear piercing shall do all of the following:

(1) Wear disposable protective gloves. These gloves shall be changed between patrons and disposed of after each use. Hands shall be washed after removal of gloves.

(2) Thoroughly wash the skin area to be pierced with soap and water or a waterless washing agent with alcohol as an active ingredient.

(3) Apply an antiseptic to the skin surface of the area to be pierced and allow the antiseptic to air dry.

**Note:** Iodine and Betadyne® are acceptable antiseptics.

(4) Sterilize earrings, needles, or any other piercing instruments prior to insertion. Pre-sterilized earrings may be utilized.

(5) Prior to each use all other surfaces that come into contact with the skin of the patron shall be disinfected.

**History:** Cr. Register, July, 1989, No. 403, eff. 8-1-89; am. (intro.), (1), (3), (4) and (5), Register, May, 1999, No. 521, eff. 6-1-99; CR 02-058: am. (3) to (5) Register September 2003 No. 573, eff. 10-1-03; CR 05-118: am. (intro.) and (2) Register November 2006 No. 611, eff. 12-1-06.

**Cos 4.08 Waxing.** (1) Electrologists performing waxing shall have completed training in depilation by waxing in a school of electrology or a school of cosmetology consisting of not less than 8 training hours in all of the following areas:

- (a) Hygiene and sterilization.
- (b) Treatments with hard hot wax.
- (c) Treatments with liquid strip wax.
- (d) Hair removal from legs and arms, bikini and underarm hair.

- (e) Removal of facial hair.
- (f) Eyebrow shaping.
- (g) Post depilation treatments.

(2) Manicurists performing waxing shall have completed training in depilation by waxing in a school of cosmetology or a school of manicuring consisting of not less than 8 training hours in all of the following areas:

- (a) Hygiene and sterilization.
- (b) Treatments with hard hot wax.
- (c) Treatments with liquid strip wax.
- (d) Hair removal from the foot, lower leg, hand and forearm.
- (e) Post depilation treatments.

(3) Licensees performing depilation by waxing shall do all of the following:

- (a) Apply a topical antiseptic to the skin surface of the area to be waxed and allow the antiseptic to air dry.
- (b) Dispose of spatulas after each use.
- (c) Dispose of wax and strips after each use.

**History:** Cr. Register, July, 1989, No. 403, eff. 8-1-89; am. (intro.), (1) and (2), Register, May, 1999, No. 521, eff. 6-1-99; CR 02-058: am. (1) Register September 2003 No. 573, eff. 10-1-03; CR 05-118: renum. (intro.) to (3) to be (3) and am. (3) (a), cr. (1) and (2) Register November 2006 No. 611, eff. 12-1-06; corrections in (1) (intro.), (2) (intro.) made under s. 13.92 (4) (b) 6., 7., Stats., Register February 2013 No. 686.

**Cos 4.09 Electrolysis.** Licensees performing electrolysis shall:

(1) Use sterilized needles, lancets and tweezers for each patron, in accordance with s. [Cos 4.03](#).

(2) Wear disposable protective gloves when working on a patron. These gloves shall be changed between patrons and disposed of following use. Hands shall be washed after removal of gloves.

(3) Thoroughly wash the skin area to be treated with soap and water. Apply an antiseptic to the skin surface of the patron and allow the antiseptic to air dry prior to commencing electrolysis.

(4) Dispose of needles and lancets in a puncture resistant container specifically designed for disposal. Full sharps containers shall be disposed of appropriately.

**History:** Cr. [Register July, 1989, No. 403](#), eff. 8-1-89; am. (2), (3) and (4), [Register May, 1999, No. 521](#), eff. 6-1-99; [CR 02-058](#); am. (1), (3) and (4), cr. (3m) [Register September 2003 No. 573](#), eff. 10-1-03; [CR 05-118](#); r. (3m) [Register November 2006 No. 611](#), eff. 12-1-06; correction in (1) made under s. [13.92 \(4\) \(b\) 7.](#), Stats., [Register February 2013 No. 686](#).

**Cos 4.10 Manicuring.** (1) Prior to use, all reusable manicure instruments shall be disinfected.

(2) Disinfectant used for decontamination shall be changed daily and shall be kept in a covered container.

(3) Sterilization shall be accomplished in accordance with s. [Cos 4.03](#).

(4) Manicure instruments that cannot be cleaned and disinfected or sterilized shall be disposed of following each use.

(5) Massaging by manicurists is limited to the hand, including the forearm and elbow, and the foot, including the lower leg and knee.

**History:** Cr. [Register May, 1993, No. 449](#), eff. 6-1-93; am. (1) (a) and (b), [Register May, 1999, No. 521](#), eff. 6-1-99; [CR 02-058](#); r. (1) (intro.), renum. (1) (a) to (c) and (2) to be (1) to (4) and am. (1), cr. (5) [Register September 2003 No. 573](#), eff. 10-1-03; correction in (3) made under s. [13.92 \(4\) \(b\) 7.](#), Stats., [Register February 2013 No. 686](#).