



Secretary of State

Office of Professional Regulation

TATTOO AND BODY PIERCERS

Tattoo Aftercare Guidelines

At a minimum, the following line items need to be incorporated into a shop's Tattoo Aftercare Instruction handout/brochure with full explanation and clinical recommendations from the practitioner:

1. How long to leave the bandage on and how to remove the bandage if it sticks. [3.3(E)(1)(a)]
2. What the tattoo site will look and feel like over the next few days (for example, it might itch, look like a sunburn, peel and/or scab). [3.3(E)(1)(b)]
3. Instructions for keeping the tattoo clean and application of ointment to the tattoo until it has healed. [3.3(E)(1)(c)]
4. Clients should be sure that they wash their hands before caring for their tattoo. [3.3(E)(1)(c)]
5. Client activity restrictions. For example, clients should avoid scratching, rubbing or picking the scab. Clients should also avoid swimming, baths, hot tubs, and sunbathing until the skin had healed. [3.3(E)(1)(d)]
6. Alternatives for cleaning if irritation to original cleaning products occurs. [3.3(E)(1)(e)]
7. Directions on use of sunscreen on healed tattoos to prevent fading. [3.3(E)(1)(f)]
8. Possible side effects. [3.3(E)(1)(g)]
9. Signs and symptoms of infection. These include excessive redness, swelling, severe itching, or pus at the tattoo site. Fever is also a sign of infection. Clients should be instructed to contact you and their health-care provider if signs and symptoms of infection occur. [3.3(E)(1)(h)]
10. Shop phone number for client questions. [3.3(E)(1)(i)]

*The above requirements are mandated by the relevant OPR Rules Relating to Tattooing and are meant to serve as outlines for tattooists to provide further detail and specificity on their own Tattoo Aftercare Instructions.

*Additional information consistent with the tattooist's own clinical and professional preferences may be provided on the Tattoo Aftercare Instructions. However, these additions shall not exclude or substitute the above requirements.