

## AT A GLANCE

## Examples of Reusable Equipment and Instruments

This document is an excerpt from the [Guide to Infection Prevention and Control in Personal Service Settings](#). It outlines equipment/instruments commonly found in personal service settings and classifies them based on the intended and actual use of the equipment/instruments. For more information, please consult the full Guide, visit the [IPAC in Personal Service Settings webpage](#) or email [ipac@oahpp.ca](mailto:ipac@oahpp.ca).

Personal Service	Critical	Semi-critical	Non-critical, Intermediate-Level Disinfection	Non-critical, Low-Level Disinfection
Body modification and suspension (e.g., scarification, branding, ear shaping, implants)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Dermal anchor tools</li><li>• Dermal drivers/anchors</li><li>• Forceps</li><li>• Retractors</li><li>• Reusable clamps</li><li>• Reusable scalpel handles</li><li>• Skin elevators</li><li>• Strike branding metal strips</li><li>• Suspension hooks</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Any equipment, instrument or item used to hold a sterile strike branding metal strip or electrocautery/cautery tip</li><li>• Suspension rig</li></ul>		<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• See chapter 3, Managing the Environment, for tables, chairs, beds</li><li>• Rigid containers used to hold dirty equipment until reprocessing (at end of day)</li><li>• Service trays<sup>†</sup></li></ul>

Personal Service	Critical	Semi-critical	Non-critical, Intermediate-Level Disinfection	Non-critical, Low-Level Disinfection
Body piercing	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• All forceps and clamps</li> <li>• All jewellery used for initial piercing and jewellery purchased in bulk</li> <li>• All tapers</li> <li>• Open-ended receiving tubes</li> <li>• Ring-opening and ring-closing pliers</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Needle pushers</li> <li>• Scissors used to cut cannulas (insertion tubes)</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• All calipers</li> <li>• Jewellery (when replacing piercing jewellery on completely healed piercings)</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• See chapter 3, Managing the Environment, for tables, chairs, beds</li> <li>• Rigid containers used to hold dirty equipment until reprocessing (at end of day)</li> <li>• Service trays<sup>†</sup></li> </ul>
Earlobe piercing	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Jewellery for initial piercings</li> </ul>		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Mechanical earlobe-piercing device that holds a single-use, disposable sterile cartridge (systems that use stud adaptor and clasp retainer are not recommended but if used, stud holder and clasp retainer are to be sterile, single-use, disposable)</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• See chapter 3, Managing the Environment, for tables, chairs, beds</li> <li>• Rigid containers used to hold dirty equipment until reprocessing (at end of day)</li> <li>• Service trays<sup>†</sup></li> </ul>

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Electrolysis and hair removal (waxing and laser)		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Any equipment, instrument or item used to hold, manipulate or contact a sterile needle</li> <li>Needle/probe holder or permanent attached pin device</li> <li>Removable tip/cap (single-use or high-level disinfection after each use)</li> <li>Tweezers used to expose ingrown hairs</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Laser heads, tips and wands</li> <li>Scissors used to cut hair<sup>††</sup></li> <li>Tweezers used to remove hair from the hair follicle</li> <li>UV eye goggles for multiple-client use</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>See chapter 3, Managing the Environment, for tables, chairs, beds</li> <li>Containers used to hold sterile packaged tweezers or other sterile equipment or instruments</li> <li>Electrolysis electrodes and sponge covers (if used)</li> <li>Epilator foot-operating switches and cords</li> <li>Epilator cord and control panel that comes in contact with client's skin or is handled by worker<sup>†</sup></li> <li>Laser exterior power switches/touch screen/cables<sup>†</sup></li> <li>Magnifying glass and arm/reusable magnifying goggles handled by worker</li> <li>Rigid containers used to hold dirty equipment until reprocessing (at end of day)</li> <li>Scissors used to cut hair</li> <li>Scissors used to cut single-use wax strips</li> <li>Service trays<sup>†</sup></li> </ul>

Personal Service	Critical	Semi-critical	Non-critical, Intermediate-Level Disinfection	Non-critical, Low-Level Disinfection
Hairdressing and barbering			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Crochet hooks used for cap highlights<sup>††</sup></li> <li>• Hair clipper blades<sup>††</sup></li> <li>• Hair scissors<sup>††</sup></li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• See chapter 3, Managing the Environment, for tables, chairs, beds</li> <li>• Colour mixing bowls (if reusable)</li> <li>• Combs, brushes</li> <li>• Crochet hooks used for cap highlights</li> <li>• Disinfectant containers holding instruments</li> <li>• Hair clipper blades</li> <li>• Hair clipper guards and shaver guards</li> <li>• Hair rollers, clips and caps</li> <li>• Hair scissors</li> <li>• Handles for hairstyling razors</li> <li>• Handles and cradles for shaving razor used on skin</li> </ul>

Personal Service	Critical	Semi-critical	Non-critical, Intermediate-Level Disinfection	Non-critical, Low-Level Disinfection
Manicure, pedicure and nail treatments		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Grater-style foot files</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Acrylic tip cutter</li> <li>Cuticle scissors, nippers, pushers, scrapers and cutters</li> <li>Diamond drill bit for acrylic nails</li> <li>Foot files with removable adhesive/abrasive stickers or metal foot files</li> <li>Metal, diamond or glass nail files</li> <li>Nail-cleaner scoops</li> <li>Nail clippers</li> <li>Recirculating foot tub or footbath</li> <li>Reusable metal dremel bit</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>See chapter 3, Managing the Environment, for tables, chairs, beds</li> <li>Callus blade (credo blade) holders</li> <li>Dremel handle</li> <li>Flip flops or slippers for multiple-client use (may be laundered if applicable: i.e., cloth slippers, not foam slippers)</li> <li>Manicure bowls and trays</li> <li>Nail-drying stations, tables</li> <li>Tweezers for applying nail art</li> <li>UV and LED curing light</li> </ul>

Personal Service	Critical	Semi-critical	Non-critical, Intermediate-Level Disinfection	Non-critical, Low-Level Disinfection
Tattooing and micropigmentation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Reusable ink caps (e.g., metal ink caps)</li> <li>Tattoo grips, tubes and tips</li> </ul>			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>See chapter 3, Managing the Environment, for tables, chairs, beds</li> <li>Clip cord<sup>‡</sup></li> <li>Contact screws<sup>‡</sup></li> <li>Rigid containers used to hold dirty equipment until reprocessing (at end of day)</li> <li>Scissors used to cut bandages</li> <li>Service trays<sup>‡</sup></li> <li>Spray bottles<sup>‡</sup></li> <li>Tattoo machine and controls<sup>‡</sup></li> <li>Tube clamp<sup>‡</sup></li> </ul>
Other personal services (e.g., makeup, facials, tinting, eyelash extensions, colonics, floatation)		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Equipment used for facials that contacts non-intact skin (e.g., acne treatments, microdermabrasion)</li> <li>Microblade handles</li> <li>Microneedle roller handles</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Equipment used for facials that contacts intact skin</li> <li>Tweezers to apply fake lashes</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>See chapter 3, Managing the Environment, for tables, chairs, beds</li> <li>Facial steamer machine and reservoir</li> </ul>

<sup>‡</sup> If covered with a sheath/cover during use; if not, reprocess as a Non-critical, Intermediate-Level Disinfection item as long as it can be easily or adequately cleaned and disinfected between each use.

<sup>‡‡</sup> This increased level of disinfection is required if instruments nick the skin

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**Note:** To see the list of revisions, please refer to [Guide to Infection Prevention and Control in Personal Service Settings](#).

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