

Microblading Information Sheet

April 2019

What is Microblading?

Microblading is a manual, semi-permanent cosmetic tattoo procedure. It can be also known as eyebrow feathering, eyebrow embroidery, eyebrow micro-pigmentation, micro-stroking, or 3D brows. The blade of the instrument (tool) used for microblading is made of a row of fine needles. These needles are dipped into colour pigments (sometimes called ink) and placed into the skin with a slicing motion. Microblading is an invasive procedure because it breaks the skin. Two types of instruments can be used hand held or machine based.



Photos: Hand-held Microblading Pen with needle detail (Image source: <https://microbladingemporium.co.uk/>); Electric Microblading Pen with charger (Image source: www.aliexpress.com)

What are the Potential Risks?

- Transmission of infectious diseases, such as HIV, hepatitis B and C, and skin infections
- Allergic reactions to pigments/inks
- Scarring from repeated tattooing

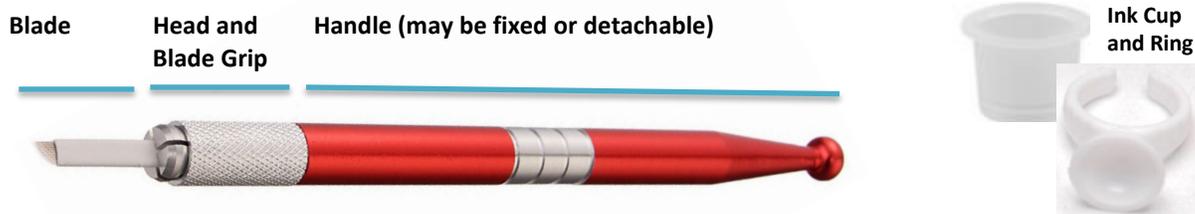
How are Infectious Diseases Transmitted and Prevented?

SOURCE	TRANSMISSION	WHAT CAN AN OPERATOR DO FOR PREVENTION?
Operator	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Lack of handwashing • Inadequate infection control measures followed • Person to person 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Thorough hand washing at appropriate times • Thorough hand rubbing with hand sanitizer • Proper use of disposable gloves • Refraining from work with active signs and symptoms or a lab positive for a communicable disease
Client	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Cross-contamination (i.e. from skin bacteria) • Person to person • Poor aftercare 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Antiseptic used body site before procedure • Do not perform procedure on or near irritated skin • Refrain from performing services on clients with active signs and symptoms or a lab positive for a communicable disease • Do not touch contaminated area on client with clean gloves used for procedure • Provide proper after care instructions to clients
Equipment/ Tools	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Improper disinfection or sterilization • Re-use of soiled, single-use instruments • Contamination 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Sterilize or disinfect re-usable equipment • Properly discard single-use tools after use • Do not let tools and other instruments come in contact with unclean surfaces or equipment • Check and record lot number, expiry date, and package integrity of tools and pigments/ink prior to each procedure

Infection Control Requirements Microblading Equipment and Tools

Equipment and Tool Categorization

Critical	Any instrument intended to penetrate the skin or mucous membrane, or contact the puncture site, contact blood or body fluid, or a sterile instrument before puncturing the skin.
Semi-critical	Any instrument intended to contact non-intact skin or a mucous membrane but does not penetrate it.
Non-critical	Any instrument intended to contact intact skin, but may accidentally contact non-intact skin or receive blood or body fluid splatter.
	Any instrument or equipment that does not directly contact the client or contacts only intact skin.



Images Source (www.estheticworldbeauty.com)

Level of Disinfection Required by Item Type

ITEM	CATEGORY	LEVEL OF DISINFECTION
Blades	Critical	Sterile Single-use only
Handles with attached blades	Critical	Sterile Single-use only
Ink cups	Critical	Sterile Single-use only
Ink cup rings	Critical	Sterile Single-use only
Tweezers	Semi-critical	High-level disinfectant
Head and blade grip of handle (attached to handle)	Non-critical	Intermediate-level disinfectant
Detachable handle (separate from head and blade)	Non-critical	Intermediate-level disinfectant
Brow pencils	Non-critical*	Low-level disinfectant, then sharpen
Dividers, rulers	Non-critical*	Low-level disinfectant
Eyebrow scissors	Non-critical*	Low-level disinfectant
Markers	Non-critical	Single-use only
Cord cover/Tape	Non-critical	Single use only

*If a non-critical item receives blood or body fluid splatter or accidentally contacts non-intact skin it must be disinfected using an intermediate-level disinfectant.

Instrument Reprocessing

Refer to “Instrument Reprocessing – Disinfection” and “Instrument Reprocessing – Sterilization” Fact Sheets for information and examples.

For Further Information, please contact your local Public Health Inspector (PHI). A list of PHI offices can be found here:

<https://www.saskatchewan.ca/residents/health/public-health/public-health-inspectors>

The Saskatchewan Personal Services Best Management Practices and other Saskatchewan personal service fact sheets can be found here:

<https://www.saskatchewan.ca/residents/environment-public-health-and-safety/environmental-health/personal-service-facilities>

Material referenced in part from:

Microblading Services in Personal Service Establishments Fact Sheet for Operators, BC Ministry of Health

Guidelines for Body Modification November 2017, Health Protection Branch, Ministry of Health