

Additional Guidelines for Ear Lobe Piercing

Ear Lobe Piercing:

- All facilities are to follow “**General Guidelines**” fact sheets.

Additional requirements:

- **Ear piercing instruments must not be used on any part of the body except the fleshy part of the ear lobes.**
- The person performing the ear piercing must wear single-use disposable gloves on both hands during the procedure.
- Ear piercing instruments without sterile, single-use disposable plastic adapters or cartridges that come in direct contact with the ear during the piercing procedure must be cleaned and then sterilized between each client use. **If the ear piercing gun/instrument cannot be sterilized, it must not be used.**
- Piercing instruments equipped with disposable parts must be cleaned and then disinfected with an intermediate to high-level disinfectant after each client.
- Jewellery must be supplied pre-packaged and sterile.
- Jewellery intended for piercing cannot be sampled or returned.
- Do not spray sterile earrings with disinfectant solution prior to piercing
- The ear lobe must first be cleaned with an approved skin antiseptic, then marked with an (iodine) felt tip/marketing pen prior to piercing. After one minute, once the pen mark has dried, the site is to be cleaned again with the approved skin antiseptic just prior to piercing
- After each client, all disposable parts must be discarded. Previously opened packages of jewellery can no longer be considered sterile. Any jewellery stored in opened or damaged packages may no longer be used to pierce the skin.

- Store the piercing instrument in a sanitary manner to prevent contamination. Instruments that are sterilized must be stored properly in order to maintain sterility.
- Clients must be given verbal and written ear piercing after care such as:
 - Normal bathing and showering are permitted but otherwise keep the pierced area dry.
 - Clean hands immediately before touching jewellery.
 - Turn jewellery when wound is not dry
 - Expected healing time of the wound
 - Possible complications, and their signs and symptoms.
 - How to deal with slight redness, pain or swelling and recommend consultation with a family physician if the problem does not improve within 24 hours.
 - Advise client not to remove jewellery from a potentially infected piercing and to seek medical advice.

For more information, contact

Halton Region

Dial 311 or 905-825-6000

1-866-4HALTON (1-866-442-5866)

TTY 905-827-9833

www.halton.ca