**Nail Service Safety Guide**

**Licenses**
- Salon is licensed (green license)
- Practitioner is licensed (blue license)
- Inspection report is posted and you have reviewed it.
- A salon that was in compliance with licensure laws and health and sanitation regulations at the time of inspection will not have violations for:
  - Unlicensed practitioners;
  - Failing to disinfect nail instruments;
  - Reusing single-use items; and
  - Failing to disinfect pedicure basins.

**Questions to Ask**
**How do you clean nail instruments?**
*Answer: After every client they are cleaned with soap and water and then immersed in disinfectant for 10 minutes and rinsed.*

**How do you clean your pedicure equipment?**
*Answer: After every client the basin is first cleaned with soap and water and then rinsed. The basin is then filled with water and liquid disinfectant (approximately 7 ½ cups bleach or an EPA-registered disinfectant used according to the manufacturer’s directions) and circulated for 10 minutes.*

**FAQ**
**Why does it matter that the practitioner is licensed?**
Licensed practitioners have received Board approved training and are knowledgeable in proper infection control practices.

**Why would a nail salon reuse instruments and files and not disinfect the pedicure basins?**
Because cleaning and disinfecting takes time which cuts into profits. Not using disinfectant increases profits. It takes approximately ½ gallon of bleach to disinfect the average size pedicure basin. Files, buffers and pumice stones are also reused to increase profits.

**Tips**

**Pedicure Basins**
- Spraying the basin with a cleaner or disinfectant spay and wiping it out is not the proper procedure for cleaning and disinfecting after each client.
- If the basin has a jet, ask the practitioner to disassemble it so you can examine it. Signs that the basin and jet have not been cleaned and disinfected include a grating sound when the jet is opened (foot scrub residue) and visible hair, product or debris in the jet assembly.

**Nail Instruments**
- Ask to see the instruments before they are used on you. Examine them for nail clippings and nail dust.

**Single-Use Items**
- Examine all items before they are used on you.
- Used nail files will have white lines and/or nail dust.
- Used pumice stones will have dead skin and product residue.
- Used flip flops will have a foot impression or dirt on the sole.

**Prohibited Items**
- Credo Blades or other razor type devices that remove calluses may not be used.

**Your Rights**
You have the right to:
- Ask if the salon and the practitioner are licensed;
- Request a licensed practitioner perform your service;
- View the inspection report;
- Ask how instruments and pedicure basins are cleaned and disinfected;
- Ask that your instruments and pedicure basin be cleaned and disinfected if they appear dirty;
- Request new single-use items be used on you; and
- Report any violation to the Board.

**Manicure Services**
- Practitioner washes hands before service;
- A clean towel or paper is placed on the workstation;
- Clean nail nippers and pushers are used;
- Nail files and buffers are brand new and show no evidence of prior use; and
- Product is dispensed from labeled containers.

**Pedicure Services**
- You have not shaved your legs in the past 24 hours (freshly shaved legs can allow bacteria to enter your body);
- You have no open sores or cuts on your feet or legs;
- Practitioner washes hands prior to service;
- The basin has been properly cleaned and disinfected;
- If the basin has a disposable liner and a magnetic jet, a clean and disinfected jet is used;
- Clean nail nippers and pushers are used;
- Files, buffers and pumice stones are brand new and show no evidence of prior use;
- Product is dispensed from labeled containers; and
- Flip-flops are new.

**Blood Exposure**
If you are cut, or your practitioner cuts themselves, the practitioner is required to stop the service and do the following:
- Put on gloves;
- Clean the cut with an antiseptic;
- Place a bandage over the cut;
- Clean and disinfect instruments exposed to blood;
- Disinfect the workstation; and
- Double-bag and dispose of contaminated items.

**Questions or Concerns** If your practitioner is not following proper cleaning and disinfecting procedures or you are injured during a service, you should notify the salon owner and file a complaint with the Kansas Board of Cosmetology. Complaint forms can be found on the Board’s website at www.kansas.gov/kboc.

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