

## Ear Piercing

This factsheet is designed to provide guidance to beauty therapists who are either planning to set up or undertake an ear piercing business or purchase an existing business in the Gladstone Region.

## Introduction

The Public Health (Infection Control for Personal Appearance Services) Act 2003 categorises closed ear piercing as a non-higher risk personal appearance service and therefore does not generally require a licence from Council. This applies to the ear and nose with a closed piercing instrument that does not come into contact with the person's skin or mucous membrane in addition to being fitted with a sterilised single-use disposable cartridge containing sterilised jewellery and fittings.

Unsafe or unhygienic procedures may affect the health of the client and the operator. Ear piercers must follow correct hygiene practices to prevent bacterial fungal and viral infections such as HIV, Hepatitis B and Hepatitis C.

If your business is conducting any other activities which are not defined above, such as body piercing, contact Council for details on licensing requirements for higher risk personal appearance services.

## Hygiene hints for undertaking ear or nose piercing using a closed piercing instrument

Anyone undertaking an ear or nose piercing service is required to comply with the Public Health (Infection Control for personal Appearance Services) Act 2003 and the Infection Control Guidelines for Personal Appearance Services 2004. The Act requires that business proprietors and operators who provide personal appearance services to the public must take all reasonable precautions and care to minimise infection risks to clients.

A copy of the Infection Control Guidelines for Personal Appearance Services 2012 can be found at www.health.qld.gov.au

## How can you contact us?



(07) 4970 0700

STD CALLS: 1300 733 343

For those residents who currently incur STD call rates when contacting their local customer service centre



(07) 4975 8500



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