SKABT29

Reduction of hair growth using intense pulsed light or laser systems

Overview

This standard is about reducing hair growth using intense pulsed light (IPL) and laser systems. It stresses the importance of safe working practice and places emphasis on identifying and controlling hazards in the workplace. You will need to carry out a thorough consultation with the client to identify hair and skin conditions, formulate an individual treatment plan, provide treatment and aftercare advice.

To carry out this standard you will need to maintain effective health, safety and hygiene throughout your work. You will also need to maintain your personal appearance and demonstrate effective communication and consultation skills.

The main outcomes of this standard are:

1. maintain safe and effective methods of working when reducing hair growth using intense pulsed light or laser systems
2. consult, plan and prepare for treatments
3. carry out reduction of hair growth using intense pulsed light or laser systems
Performance criteria

You must be able to:  Maintain safe and effective methods of working when reducing hair growth using intense pulsed light or laser systems

1. maintain your responsibilities for health and safety throughout the treatment
2. prepare and protect your client and yourself with personal protective equipment within the controlled area
3. maintain your client's modesty and privacy at all times
4. position your client to meet the needs of the service without causing them discomfort
5. ensure your own posture and working methods minimise fatigue and the risk of injury to yourself and others
6. ensure environmental conditions are suitable for the client and the treatment
7. use working methods that minimise the risk of cross-infection
8. ensure the use of clean equipment and materials
9. promote environmental and sustainable working practices
10. follow workplace and suppliers' or manufacturers' instructions for the safe use of equipment, materials and products
11. dispose of waste materials to meet legal requirements
12. complete the service within a commercially viable time

Consult, plan and prepare for treatments

13. use consultation techniques to determine the client's treatment plan
14. recognise any contra-indications and take the necessary action
15. agree the treatment and outcomes that meet the client's needs
16. obtain signed, informed consent from the client prior to carrying out each treatment
17. identify the client's medical history, skin classification, hair colour, hair type, area to be treated, skin condition and sensitivity
18. take pre-treatment photographic evidence of the area to be treated following organisational practices
19. explain the physical sensation created by the treatment to the client
20. set up the controlled area to meet legal and organisational requirements
21. prepare the area to be treated and carry out a test patch to establish response and suitability for treatment
22. ensure the client signs for receipt of written aftercare procedures, following the test patch
23. identify and agree achievable outcomes of the treatment for the client's hair colour, hair type and skin classification
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24. illuminate the **area to be treated** to ensure maximum visibility
25. ensure the **area to be treated** is shaved, clean, oil free and dry prior to treatment
26. mark out the **area to be treated** to ensure treatment precision
27. carry out cooling methods according to **skin classification**
28. apply product to the **area to be treated**, following treatment protocols
29. enable and set the **equipment specifications and variables** to meet the agreed treatment plan
30. ensure the hand-piece is used at the correct angle and pressure
31. manipulate the skin to gain access, depending on the **area to be treated**
32. work systematically to cover the **area to be treated**
33. check your client's wellbeing and monitor the level of skin reaction throughout the treatment
34. conclude treatment by returning the **equipment** into stand-by mode
35. ensure any product is removed and the treated area is cooled and soothed
36. take post-treatment photographs of the treated areas
37. give your client **advice and recommendations** on the treatment provided
38. ensure the client's records are completed and signed by you and the client
Knowledge and understanding

You need to know and understand:

Maintain safe and effective methods of working when reducing hair growth using intense pulsed light or laser systems

1. your responsibilities for health and safety as defined by any specific legislation covering your job role
2. the importance and reasons for adhering to organisational and treatment protocols
3. the responsibilities under local authority licensing regulations for yourself and your premises and the importance of following local rules, where applicable
4. your responsibilities for following organisational procedures for the delivery of laser treatments
5. your legal responsibilities for checking current insurance guidelines for the delivery of laser and intense pulsed light (IPL) treatments
6. the importance of undertaking Core of Knowledge to meet with insurance guidelines
7. the causes and hazards of accidental exposure to optical radiation and the importance of wearing personal protective equipment and the principles of Maximum Permissible Exposure
8. why it is important to maintain client’s modesty and privacy
9. how the position of your client, yourself and your working methods can affect the desired outcome and reduce fatigue and the risk of injury
10. the necessary environmental conditions for treatments such as heating and ventilation and why these are important
11. methods of cleaning, disinfection and sterilisation
12. why it is important to avoid direct and indirect cross-infection by working safely and hygienically
13. the hazards and risks which exist in your workplace and the safe working practices which you must follow
14. the different types of working methods that promote environmental and sustainable working practices
15. suppliers’ and manufacturers’ instructions for the safe use of equipment, materials and products which you must follow
16. the causes and hazards of accidental exposure to clinical waste such as razor blades
17. the legal requirements for waste disposal
18. the reasons for completing a service in a commercially viable time
Consult, plan and prepare for treatments

19. the importance of communicating with clients in a professional manner
20. how to complete a consultation taking into account client's diverse needs
21. the reasons why intense pulsed light and laser treatments must not be carried out on minors under 18 years of age
22. the importance of agreeing the service that meets the client's needs
23. the legal significance of gaining signed, informed client consent to receive the service
24. the legislative requirements for storing and protecting client data
25. the contra-indications that would prevent or restrict the service and why
26. the necessary action to take in relation to specific contra-indications when referring clients
27. the importance of and reasons for not naming specific contra-indications when referring clients
28. the reasons for identifying and recording the client's medical history, previous treatments, previous hair removal and sun exposure
29. the client's skin classification using the Fitzpatrick and ethnic colour scales
30. the legal significance of producing clear high-quality photographic evidence before and after treatment
31. how to describe the physical sensation of the treatment to the client
32. how pain threshold and sensitivity varies from client to client
33. why it is important to carry out a test patch prior to initial treatment and prior to all subsequent treatments where fluence may need to be increased
34. the reasons for providing written aftercare instructions immediately after a test patch
35. other skin care treatments which may inhibit IPL and laser treatments such as self-tanning and micropigmentation
36. the treatments that could be given in conjunction with or after IPL and laser treatments such as electrical epilation
37. how to prepare consultation records

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38. the importance of good lighting in the controlled area and illuminating the area to be treated
39. how the preparation of the treatment area can vary according to manufacturer's instructions
40. the correct marking out tool and techniques to be used
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41. the different types of cooling methods used and when and how to use them
42. how to match treatment specifications and variables to suit skin classifications, hair colour and hair types
43. the specifications, variables and terminology of IPL and lasers in relation to treatment practice
44. why and how to manipulate the skin during treatment
45. why it is important to follow manufacturer's instructions to position the hand piece at the correct angle and pressure
46. the different types of IPL and laser equipment and their advantages and disadvantages
47. how to interpret the warning labelling on IPL and laser equipment
48. the characteristics of light and how it interacts with skin and hair
49. how to work systematically, avoiding treatment overlap across the areas to be treated
50. monitoring procedures for checking the client and the treatment area
51. possible contra-actions which may occur and how to deal with them
52. the principles of the electro-magnetic spectrum
53. the potential hazards of using IPL and laser equipment
54. the anatomy and physiology of the skin and hair
55. the advice and recommendations on products and services
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**Scope/range related to performance criteria**

**Controlled area**

1. enclosed area
2. lockable entry and exit points
3. signage
4. minimum reflective surfaces
5. suitable window coverage
6. adequate fire precautions and suitable service
7. adequate ventilation

**Equipment**

1. laser
2. intense pulsed light (IPL)

**Consultation techniques**

1. questioning
2. listening
3. visual
4. physical examination
5. written

**Skin classification**

1. Fitzpatrick scale 1-3
2. Fitzpatrick scale 4-6

**Hair colour**

1. dark pigment
2. medium pigment

**Hair type**

1. coarse
2. fine

**Area to be treated**
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1. underarms
2. chin or neck
3. upper lip
4. bikini line
5. intimate area
6. back
7. legs
8. centre of eyebrows
9. chest or breast

Specifications and variables

1. wavelength(s)
2. fluence
3. pulse duration or width
4. pulse delay
5. pulse repetition rate
6. spot size
7. cooling devices
8. hand piece

Advice and recommendations

1. suitable aftercare products and their uses
2. avoidance of activities which may cause contra-actions
3. time intervals between services
4. present and future products and treatments
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**Scope/range related to knowledge and understanding**

**Health and safety**

1. Health and Safety at Work Act
2. The Reporting of Injuries, Diseases and Dangerous Occurrences Regulations (RIDDOR)
3. The Health and Safety (First Aid) Regulations
4. The Regulatory Reform (Fire Safety) Order
5. The Manual Handling Operations Regulations
6. The Control of Substances Hazardous to Health Regulations (COSHH)
7. The Electricity at Work Regulations
8. The Environmental Protection Act
9. The Management of Health and Safety at Work Regulations
10. The Health and Safety (Information for Employees) Regulations

**Organisational and treatment protocols**

1. clinic management
2. client consultation
3. record keeping
4. waste management
5. IPL and laser safety and security
6. aftercare procedures

**Environmental and sustainable working practices**

1. reducing waste and managing waste (recycle, reuse, safe disposal)
2. reducing energy usage (energy efficient equipment, low energy lighting, utilising solar panels)
3. reducing water usage and other resources
4. preventing pollution
5. using disposable items
6. using recycled, eco-friendly furniture
7. using low chemical paint
8. using environmentally friendly product packaging
9. choosing responsible domestic products (Fairtrade tea and coffee)
10. encouraging carbon reducing journeys to work

**Diverse needs**

1. cultural
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2. religious
3. age
4. disability
5. gender

**Contra-indications** which prevent

1. suntanned and fake tanned skin
2. pregnancy
3. some herbal remedies
4. some photo-sensitive medication in conjunction with the British Medical Laser Association guidelines
5. inappropriate hair type and colour
6. keloid scarring
7. skin cancer
8. lupus
9. melasma

**Contra-indications** which restrict

1. micropigmentation

**Consultation records**

1. client history
2. previous hair removal and skin treatments
3. hair colour and type
4. medical history
5. emotional and physical condition
6. treatment restrictions and limitations
7. sun tanning history
8. skin classification
9. skin condition
10. client signature
11. practitioner’s signature

**Contra-actions**

1. skin greying or whitening
2. erythema
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3. blistering
4. pigmentary changes
5. excessive discomfort
6. oedema
7. frazzling of hair
8. smell of burning hair
9. scarring

Anatomy and physiology

1. the principles of the endocrine system, the major endocrine glands, the hormone secreted and their actions
2. the effect of malfunctions of the endocrine system on hair growth such as Polycystic Ovarian Syndrome and how it influences the treatment
3. the structure and function of the skin
4. skin diseases and disorders
5. the skin healing process
6. the structure of the hair and its follicle
7. the growth pattern of the hair and how this influences present and future treatments
8. the causes of hair growth
9. the principles of the circulatory and lymphatic system

Advice and recommendations

1. additional services
2. additional products
3. the lifestyle factors and changes that may be required to improve the effectiveness of the treatment
4. the future treatment needs and on-going maintenance to retain optimum results
5. visual skin changes and recovery time
6. the use of recommended skin care products during the healing process such as high factor sun protection
7. post-treatment contra-actions and reactions and how to deal with them
8. post-treatment assessment through client feedback such as questionnaire, telephone call, next visit follow up
9. post-treatment effects and the importance of clients avoiding sun exposure, heat treatments and vigorous physical activity
10. effective hair management techniques such as avoidance of waxing,
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plucking, bleaching, depilatory creams and threading between subsequent treatments
The following key values underpin the delivery of services in the beauty, nails and spa sectors:

1. a willingness to learn
2. a flexible working attitude
3. a team worker
4. a positive attitude
5. personal and professional ethics

The following behaviours underpin the delivery of services in the beauty, nails and spa sectors. These behaviours ensure that clients receive a positive impression of both the organisation and the individual:

1. meeting the organisation's standards of behaviour
2. greeting the client respectfully and in a friendly manner
3. communicating with the client in a way that makes them feel valued and respected
4. treating the client courteously and helpfully at all times
5. adapting behaviour to respond effectively to different client behaviour
6. checking with the client that you have fully understood their expectations
7. responding promptly and positively to the client's questions and comments
8. recognising information that the client might find complicated and checking whether they fully understood
9. explaining clearly to the client any reasons why their needs or expectations cannot be met
10. maintaining effective, hygienic and safe working methods
11. adhering to workplace, suppliers' and manufacturers' instructions for the safe use of equipment, materials and products
12. meeting both organisational and industry standards of appearance.

The following key skills underpin the delivery of services in the beauty, nails and spa sectors:

1. the ability to self-manage
2. excellent verbal and non-verbal communication
3. using the most appropriate ways of communicating with a client
4. responding promptly to a client seeking assistance
5. quickly locating information that will help the client
6. providing the client with information they need about services and products offered by the organisation

Core of knowledge
This course, approved by the British Medical Laser Association - BMLA, is intended for operators and other staff in Clinics using Lasers and Intense Pulsed Light systems for hair removal, skin toning, dentistry, tattoo removal and...
other similar procedures. It is designed both to provide a grounding in the basics of the safe use of lasers and IPL systems, and to satisfy the training requirements contained in the MHRA Device Bulletin DB2008(03) "Guidance on the safe use of lasers, intense light source systems and LEDs in medical, surgical, dental and aesthetic practice".

**Energy**
Energy is measured in Joules (J) and is the product of laser power (watts) and time (seconds).

**Ethnic colour scale**
The ethnic colour scale is a measure of the degree of natural pigment in the skin of clients of ethnic origin.

**Fitzpatrick classification scale**
Devised in 1975 at Harvard University, this is a skin classification on a scale of 1 to 6 based on photosensitivity reaction to ultra violet radiation.

**Fluence**
Fluence is the treatment variable set by the laser practitioner according to patient evaluation and skin type and determines the effectiveness of the treatment.

**Intimate area**
This could include Brazilian or Hollywood bikini line hair removal or removal of hair in male intimate areas.

**Maximum permissible exposure (MPE)**
This is the highest power of light source that is considered safe, in other words that has a negligible probability for creating damage.

**Power**
Rate at which we deliver the energy, measured in watts (w).

**Test Patch**
Tests to determine the degree of skin reaction and sensitivity. Test patches can be used to test the degree of heat sensitivity and pain response plus skin reaction. Test patch can incorporate patch test, thermal test or tactile test.
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<td><strong>Relevant Occupations</strong></td>
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