
Overview

This standard is for aesthetic practitioners removing or fading pigments within cosmetic, decorative or traumatic tattoos, using laser or aesthetic energy based systems. You will also be required to do a post treatment evaluation for continuous improvement of both your delivery and for the client's future needs.

Performance criteria

You must be able to:

1. implement consultation, health, safety and hygiene practices throughout the treatment
2. agree the treatment objectives with the client
3. illuminate, mark out and cool the **treatment area**
4. shave and dry the **treatment area** prior to treatment
5. enable and set the equipment specifications and variables to meet the agreed treatment plan
6. follow the treatment protocol for laser application to cover the **treatment area**
7. check your client's wellbeing and monitor the skin reaction throughout the treatment
8. adapt the treatment to suit the client's needs
9. discontinue treatment where adverse reactions occur
10. conclude the treatment by returning the equipment into safe or stand-by mode
11. take treatment photographic evidence of the **treatment area** following organisational procedures
12. complete the client's records and store in accordance with data legislation
13. use evaluation methods which were agreed within the treatment protocol
14. collate and record the information gained from client feedback, client records and your own observations
15. provide verbal and written advice and recommendations to your client regarding the post treatment aftercare
16. agree any alterations for future treatment with your client and record the outcome of your evaluation

Knowledge and understanding

You need to know and understand:

1. the consultation, health, safety and hygiene requirements when removing or fading tattoos using laser or aesthetic energy based systems
2. why you must have good lighting in the controlled area and illuminate the treatment area
3. the maintenance and correct use of marking out tools and techniques
4. the different types of approved cooling methods and when and how to use them
5. the characteristics of light and how it interacts with skin, hair, tattoo colours, inks and pigments
6. the specifications, variables and terminology of lasers and aesthetic energy based systems in relation to treatment practice
7. the reasons for holding the device hand piece at the correct angle according to the treatment protocol
8. how to work systematically, avoiding excessive treatment overlap across the areas to be treated
9. the differences between cosmetic, decorative and traumatic tattoos
10. why the results of some treatments may be more successful than others
11. the compliance, classification and warning labelling on laser or aesthetic energy based systems
12. the core of knowledge in the use of laser devices
13. the role of a laser protection advisor
14. the legislative requirements with regards to optical radiation
15. the causes and hazards of accidental exposure to optical radiation
16. the characteristics of optical radiation and how it interacts with skin, hair and other chromophores
17. how to deliver treatment objectives following the treatment protocol including:
 - 17.1 the origin and purpose of the treatment protocol and why it must be adhered to
 - 17.2 the content of the treatment protocol including treatment indications and **adverse reactions**
18. monitoring procedures for checking the client's wellbeing and the treatment area

19. the suitability of tattoos, inks and pigments for removal or fading using laser or aesthetic energy based systems
20. the principles of light tissue interactions and selective photothermolysis
21. the potential hazards of laser and energy based systems
22. the fundamentals of a visual dermatological assessment for the safe removal or fading of tattoos
23. the legal significance of producing photographic evidence of the treatment area
24. the **anatomy and physiology** relevant to this standard
25. the legal requirements of completing and storing client records
26. the clinical outcomes when removing or fading of tattoos using laser or aesthetic energy based systems
27. the purpose of evaluation activities
28. how to collate, analyse, summarise and record evaluation feedback in a clear and concise way
29. the aftercare **advice and recommendations** on products and treatments

Scope/range

Additional information

It is expected that an individual undertaking this standard already has the skills, knowledge and behaviours identified within the aesthetic practitioner's treatment guidance or the aesthetics National Occupational Standards.

The individual is expected to already be able to demonstrate competency in determining the relative (restrictive) and absolute (preventative) contraindications for the aesthetic standards undertaken.

It is expected that this standard is used in conjunction with SKABA1 – Maintain safe, hygienic and effective working practices for aesthetic treatments and SKABA2 – Consult, plan and prepare for aesthetic treatments.

Items listed within the scope/range should be evidenced in line with the specific type of treatment being performed.

SKABA6

Remove or fade tattoos using laser or aesthetic energy based systems



Scope/range related to performance criteria **Treatment area**

1. head, face and neck
2. torso
3. limbs

**Scope/range related
to knowledge and
understanding**

Adverse reactions

1. excessive skin greying or whitening
2. lesion colour changes
3. hyperaemia and irritation
4. excessive blistering
5. pigmentary changes
6. excessive discomfort
7. excessive oedema
8. scarring
9. reduction of hair growth
10. dizziness
11. fainting

Anatomy and physiology

1. the structure and functions of the body systems and their interdependence on each other
2. the structure and function of the skin and hair
3. skin diseases, disorders and conditions
4. the skin and wound healing process

Advice and recommendations

1. the client and practitioner's legal rights and responsibilities
2. treatment maintenance
3. post treatment expectations and associated time frames
4. restrictions and contra-actions
5. additional products and treatments

Glossary

Equipment variables

An element, feature or control that can vary and adjust the functional ability.

Laser

Light Amplification by the Stimulated Emission of Radiation. The beam from a laser is typically described as monochromatic, coherent and low divergence.

Laser/light controlled area

A controlled area around the laser/light device where people may be present within which hazards may arise and in which specific protective control measures are required.

Treatment protocol

A plan, that sets out a device and treatment indication specific protocol, identifying pre-treatment checks and tests, the manner in which the procedure is to be applied, acceptable variations, settings used, the expected outcome and when to modify or abort the treatment.

Types of tattoos

Tattoos are categorised into five areas, amateur and professional tattoos. Traumatic, cosmetic (micropigmentation), medical and tattoos for identification. Tattoos can also be classified by ink or pigment type.

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