

---

## 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
  - 12.1 the role of a laser protection advisor
13.  
the legislative requirements with regards to optical radiation

14.  
the causes and hazards of accidental exposure to optical radiation
15.  
the characteristics of optical radiation and how it interacts with skin, hair and other chromophores
16.  
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**
    1.  
monitoring procedures for checking the client's wellbeing and the treatment area
    2.  
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
  1.  
the potential hazards of laser and energy based systems
  2.  
the fundamentals of a visual dermatological assessment for the safe removal or fading of tattoos
  3.  
the legal significance of producing photographic evidence of the treatment area
  4.  
the **anatomy and physiology** relevant to this standard
  5.  
the legal requirements of completing and storing client records
  6.  
the clinical outcomes when removing or fading of tattoos using laser or aesthetic energy based systems
  7.  
the purpose of evaluation activities
  8.  
how to collate, analyse, summarise and record evaluation feedback in a clear and

---

concise way

9.

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.

SKABA6

Remove or fade tattoos using laser or aesthetic energy based systems



---

<b>Developed by</b>	SkillsActive
<b>Version Number</b>	1
<b>Date Approved</b>	04 Mar 2019
<b>Indicative Review Date</b>	31 Jan 2021
<b>Validity</b>	Current
<b>Status</b>	Original
<b>Originating Organisation</b>	SkillsActive
<b>Original URN</b>	SKABT31
<b>Relevant Occupations</b>	Beauty Therapy
<b>Suite</b>	Beauty Aesthetics
<b>Keywords</b>	tattoo removal, fading tattoo, Q switched laser systems, energy based systems energy based devices, cosmetic, decorative traumatic tattoo, non-medical practitioners, medical practitioners

---