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June/July 2007 Newsletter

KANSAS BOARD OF COSMETOLOGY

Members of the Kansas Board of Cosmetology

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Rogene Handlon, Topeka
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Mission Statement

The mission of the Kansas Board of Cosmetology is to protect the health and safety of the consuming public by licensing qualified individuals enforcing high standards of practice.

MRSA, A Dangerous New Infection:

Help protect yourself and your clients by being informed about a new dangerous multi-antibiotic resistant bacteria, Methicillin-Resistant Staphylococcus Aureus or MRSA. HA-MRSA is bacteria first discovered in the United Kingdom during the 1960s, and was only witnessed to occur in hospitalized individuals or people who had recently been in a hospital.

Starting in the early 1990s, a new strain of MRSA has emerged outside the hospital. This strain was labeled CA-MRSA because it started to emerge in the community as opposed to HA-MRSA which was only found in hospitals. CA-MRSA, often times referred to as Community MRSA is more dangerous than a normal, *Staph* infection because it is resistant to many forms of antibiotics.



CA-MRSA can be transmitted many ways because the Staphylococcus bacteria does live on the skin of a person and they not know it. Something as simple as a handshake could propagate the transfer of the bacteria to another person. The primary means for CA-MRSA to enter the body is through a cut, scrape, mucous membrane or any other open wound on the body. CA-MRSA can manifest itself on the human body in the form of a pimple or boil that can be red, swollen, painful, or even have pus or drainage.

Problems exist with diagnosing CA-MRSA because of the way it presents itself on the body. It looks very similar to a spider bite and is often diagnosed as such. When a person is diagnosed to have CA-MRSA several actions need to be taken to help prevent the spreading to other people. The person should keep the site covered with clean bandages, the person should wash their hands thoroughly after touching or treating the infection, and the person should keep their hands washed on a consistent basis even without having touched the infected area.

There are several easy preventative ways a person can protect themselves from becoming infected.

1. **Keep your hands clean by washing thoroughly with soap and water or using an alcohol-based hand sanitizer. Hand washing requires at least 20 seconds of hand friction with lather from soap.**
2. **Keep cuts and scrapes clean and covered with a bandage until healed.**
3. **Avoid contact with other people's wounds or bandages.**
4. **Avoid sharing personal items such as towels or razors.**



For further information concerning MRSA visit:

http://www.cdc.gov/ncidod/dhqp/ar_mrsa_ca_public.html.

The most important practice you can do to stop the spread of MRSA is to wash your hands prior to each customer service and maintain high standards of hand and personal hygiene.

ATTENTION!

Amended health and sanitation regulations

**Please review the amended regulations on the Kansas Board of Cosmetology website:
<http://www.kansas.gov/kboc>.**

If you do not have internet access call (785) 296-3155 and a copy of the regulations will be mailed to you.

A public hearing will be scheduled for July 30. Written comments may be submitted to the e-mail address provided in the public notice listing.

Once the regulations are adopted a copy of the regulations will be forwarded to each licensed facility. Thereafter the newly amended regulations must be posted in the facility for review by all practitioners and consumers.

Customers with Video and Camera Phones

Recently in Texas, an incident occurred when a client visited several salons and noticed health and sanitation violations. The client then proceeded to document these violations using the video capturing ability of their cell phone. The customer documented the use and hiding of credo blades, the repeated use of dirty towels, and unsanitized instruments being shared. After capturing the footage of the violations the client turned the documentation over to the Texas Department of Licensing and Regulations (TDLR). Eighty-six apparent violations were noted by the TDLR. The TDLR is currently investigating these cases.

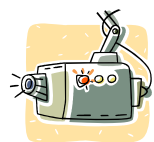


This story is not intended to alarm practitioners but make them aware of the constant observation of their practices not just from the state inspectors but from consumers. This underscores the importance for salons to practice proper sanitation procedures at all times.

Security Measures Taken At Exams:

Thomson Prometric, the company that provides cosmetology testing for the Kansas Board of Cosmetology, takes photos of each examination candidate as they are admitted to the testing sites. This admission procedure is a security measure.

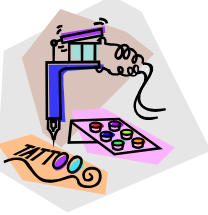
This is important to note because recently the Kansas Board of Cosmetology investigated a case in which an individual committed identity fraud by taking the exam for a person who previously failed to successfully complete the exam. Appropriate disciplinary action was taken.



Permanent Makeup:

In the 2005 newsletter, information was provided on one of the more popular services sought by consumers - permanent makeup - which is also referred to as permanent cosmetics, cosmetic tattooing or micropigmentation. This procedure is a form of tattooing as pigment is inserted into the skin.

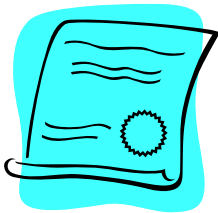
To provide these services in Kansas, an individual must be licensed by the Kansas Board of Cosmetology as a permanent cosmetic technician or tattoo artist. Furthermore, the facility must be licensed as a permanent cosmetic or a tattoo facility.



Trade shows oftentimes have demonstrations on this service. During the demonstration, attendees will be advised about training for the equipment and procedures. However the training offered through these contacts falls far short of the required Kansas curriculum for licensure as a permanent cosmetic technician or tattoo artist. Additionally, Kansas licensure applicants must successfully complete a written and a practical exam.

Failure to comply with the law subjects the practitioner and facility owner to disciplinary action in addition to a monetary fine "in an amount not to exceed \$5,000 for the first violation, \$10,000 for the second violation and \$15,000 for the third violation and for each subsequent violation." (K.S.A. 65-1954)

Violations of unlicensed practice and unlicensed facilities have occurred. In these cases, the Board has taken disciplinary action and has assessed \$5,000 fines per violation. To not abide by the law is a costly mistake!



Information on this body art service – or any body art service, including piercing – is available by reviewing the laws and regulations via the Board website at www.kansas.gov/kboc. You may also contact the Board office at the above number for further clarification of Kansas law and regulation.

Violations Resulting in Fines and Legal Action:

Salons that have licensure law violations or have a history of excessive health and sanitation violations are subject to disciplinary action. This may entail assessing a fine ("not to exceed a \$1,000 per violation") or conditioning, censuring, limiting or revoking a practitioner or facility license. The Board may also refuse to issue, renew or suspend a license.

Don't put your licensure in jeopardy by failing to follow the laws and regulations. If you are uncertain about a law or regulation attend a health and sanitation seminar or call the Board office. You may also e-mail your question(s) to this office.

Total revenue collected for fines in 2006: \$67,532

It is required that all fine revenue be forwarded to the state general fund. No fine monies may be retained by the Kansas Board of Cosmetology.

Did you know?

The Kansas Board of Cosmetology licenses:	
Cosmetologists	20,501
Cosmetology Techs	55
Electrologists	46
Estheticians	554
Manicurists	3,165
Permanent Color Techs	5
Tattoo Artists	92
Tattoo/Permanent Color Techs	9
Body Piercers	45
Total Number of Facilities for the above professions	4,671

Please reproduce and distribute this newsletter as you wish. We encourage salon owners to post the newsletter so other practitioners may review the information contained in this issue.

Appointments to the Board:

The Board's regulatory responsibility is to protect the health and safety of the consuming public and promote standards of professional practice. Members are appointed by the Governor for a three year term. If you are interested in serving as a board member, submit a cover letter and resume to:



*Director of Appointments
Office of the Governor
State Capitol, 300 SW 10th Ave, Suite 212S
Topeka, Kansas 66612-1590*

2007 Board Meeting Dates

July 9th
September 10th
November 5th

Minutes of the previous Board meetings may be viewed at:
<http://www.kansas.gov/kboc/BoardMeetings.htm>

Health and Sanitation Seminars:

A significant part of the Board's responsibility is to enforce public health regulations. However, another important role is to inform practitioners of proper standards and practice. Therefore in addition to information disseminated during inspections, through renewal mailings and the salon newsletter, the Board hosts health and sanitation seminars.

This effort has been undertaken to facilitate practitioner's efforts to comply with all health and sanitation regulations. Sessions are scheduled to accommodate a varied number of attendees. A session maybe held for an individual salon and its practitioners or a countywide seminar maybe scheduled.

Each session lasts approximately 60 minutes and is held at a mutually convenient time and location. Hand-outs are provided. There is no charge or fee to attend these seminars. For information call or email the Board office to schedule a seminar.

Avoid a Costly Mistake:

Don't fail to routinely check the expiration date on temporary permits and practitioner licenses posted in your salon. It's a costly mistake for the practitioner and salon owner should anyone provide cosmetology services without a current permit or license.

Disciplinary action may involve a maximum \$1,000 fine for the practitioner and salon. Future licensure may be conditioned suspended or denied. Should the salon have a second violation of unlicensed practice, the salon license will be revoked.

New Field Staff:

Please welcome Sue Madl, who rejoined the Board in August 2006 as the inspector for the eastern-southeastern portion of Kansas. Sue is a licensed cosmetologist for over 36 years.

Diane Pottberg was recently hired as the inspector for the western portion of the state. Diane has been a licensed cosmetologist for 18 years and a salon owner for 17 years.

We welcome both to the Kansas Board of Cosmetology.

To find back issues of the newsletter visit our website at:
<http://www.kansas.gov/kboc>

Board Staff:

Mary Lou Davis, Executive Director

Mary Lou Cheray	Clerical
Cherie Daniels	Administrative Officer
Kitty Craver*	Individual Licensure Renewal
Adele Finney*	Accounting/Budgeting
Lisa Gregg	Practitioner Licensure & Exams
LeAnna Hickman	Practitioner Licensure & Exams
Julie Levings	Facilities Licensure
Sheila Rice	Complaints/Disciplinary Action
Joel Gillaspie	Summer Intern

Inspectors

Ava Fiene*
Cindy Fellows*
Sue Madl*
Diane Pottberg*

*Licensed Cosmetologists