

**Las Animas-Huerfano Counties District Health Department
Rules and Regulations Governing Body Art Establishments
(Effective April 29, 2009)**



**Las Animas-Huerfano Counties District Health Department
Environmental Health Division**

**412 Benedicta Ave
Trinidad, Colorado 81082
(719) 846-2213
Fax: (719) 846-4472**

**119 E. Fifth Street
Walsenburg, Colorado 81089
(719) 738-2650
Fax: (719) 738-2653**

Authority: Section 25-4-2101 Colorado Revised Statutes

TABLE OF CONTENTS

Section 1: Definitions and Purpose	1
Section 2: Minimum Requirements for Body Artists	4
Section 3: Minimum Requirements for Body Art Establishments.....	4
Section 4: Client Records.....	5
Section 5: Facility and Operational Requirements.....	6
Section 6: Temporary, Special Event and Mobile Body Art Requirements.....	8
Section 7: Infection and Exposure Control Written Procedures.....	8
Section 8: Instruments/Sterilization.....	9
Section 9: Body Art Procedure.....	11
Section 10: Inspections.....	13

Section 1: DEFINITIONS & PURPOSE

- A. The purpose of these regulations is to establish the safe and sanitary practice of body art, the safe and sanitary physical environment where body art is performed, and the safe and sanitary conditions of equipment utilized in body art procedures.
- B. Definitions
- (1) **AFTERCARE INSTRUCTIONS:** written instructions given to the client, specific to the body art procedure(s) rendered. These instructions shall include information regarding when to seek medical treatment, if necessary.
 - (2) **ANTISEPTIC:** a substance that inhibits growth of bacteria and other microorganisms when applied to the skin (e.g., chlorhexadine gluconate, alcohol, iodophor). It should not be used to decontaminate inanimate objects.
 - (3) **BLOODBORNE PATHOGENS:** disease-producing microorganisms that are present in human blood. These pathogens include, but are not limited to; hepatitis B virus (HBV), hepatitis C virus (HCV) and human immunodeficiency virus (HIV).
 - (4) **BODY ART ESTABLISHMENT:** any location, whether temporary or permanent, where the practices of body art are performed.
 - (5) **BODY ART:** the practice of physical body adornment by establishments or artists utilizing, but not limited to, the techniques of body piercing, tattooing, branding, sculpting, and scarification. This definition does not include practices conducted under the supervision of a physician licensed to practice medicine under Colorado law nor piercing of the outer perimeter or lobe of the ear by means of sterilized stud-and-clasp ear piercing systems.
 - (6) **BODY ARTIST:** any person who performs body art procedures.
 - (7) **BRANDING:** a potentially invasive procedure in which a permanent mark is burned into or onto the skin using either temperature, mechanical or chemical means.
 - (8) **CERTIFICATE OF INSPECTION:** means a document issued by the Department indicating that a body artist meets the standards set by the Colorado Department of Public Health and Environment and the Las Animas-Huerfano Counties District Health Department to operate a body art establishment and/or to perform body art procedures.

- (9) **CONTAMINATED:** the presence or reasonably anticipated presence of blood, infectious materials or other types of impure materials that have corrupted a surface or item through contact.
- (10) **CONTAMINATION:** to make unfit for use by the introduction or potential introduction of blood, infectious materials or other types of impure materials.
- (11) **DEPARTMENT:** the Las Animas-Huerfano Counties District Health Department.
- (12) **DISINFECTANT:** an EPA registered hospital grade disinfectant which has effectiveness against *Salmonella choleraesuis*, *Staphylococcus aureus* and *Pseudomonas aeruginosa* or a 1:100 dilution of 5.25% sodium hypochlorite (chlorine bleach) and water, made fresh daily, dispensed from a spray bottle, and used to decontaminate inanimate objects and surfaces.
- (13) **DISINFECTION:** to destroy or inhibit pathogenic microorganisms on inanimate objects or surfaces.
- (14) **EASILY CLEANABLE:** a smooth nonabsorbent surface.
- (15) **GLOVES:** those which are disposable and single use, and are labeled for surgical or examination purposes. Gloves for instrument cleaning shall be heavy-duty, multi-use and waterproof.
- (16) **HECTOGRAPHIC:** a copy made from a prepared gelatin surface to which the original document has been transferred.
- (17) **INFECTIOUS or REGULATED WASTE:** blood or other potentially infectious materials; contaminated items that would release blood or other potentially infectious materials; items caked with blood or other potentially infectious materials that can release these materials upon handling; contaminated sharps; and human pathological/anatomical waste.
- (18) **INVASIVE:** entry through the skin or mucosa either by incision or insertion of an instrument body ornament, or any other means.
- (19) **JEWELRY:** any ornament inserted into the body, which must be made of surgical implant-grade stainless steel; solid 14k or 18k white or yellow gold; niobium, titanium, or platinum; or a dense, low-porosity plastic, which is free of nicks, scratches, or irregular surfaces.
- (20) **PERSON IN CHARGE:** the owner, manager or individual(s) present at the body art establishment who is responsible for the operation at the time of an inspection. If no individual is responsible, then any employed

person present is the person in charge. If multiple body artists share operation of the establishment, then each artist shall be considered a person in charge and shall be accountable for all requirements of this regulation with regard to common areas and practices in addition to his/her own separate areas and practices.

- (21) **PIERCING:** puncturing or penetration of the skin or mucosa of a person and the insertion of jewelry or other adornment in the opening, except that puncturing of the outer perimeter or lobe of the ear with sterilized stud-and-clasp ear piercing system shall not be included.
- (22) **PRE-STERILIZED INSTRUMENTS:** those that are commercially sterilized by the manufacturer. Packaging shall bear a legible sterilization lot number and expiration date.
- (23) **PROCEDURE AREA:** room(s) in which body art procedures are conducted as well as any associated procedure surfaces or work areas that may require sanitization.
- (24) **REUSEABLE DEVICES:** instruments or other items of equipment that are approved by the manufacturer for reuse after appropriate cleaning, decontamination, and sterilization.
- (25) **SCARIFICATION:** an invasive procedure in which the intended result is the production of scar tissue on the surface of the skin.
- (26) **SCULPTING:** a modification of the skin, mucosa, cartilage, or tissue of the body for non-medical purposes.
- (27) **SHARPS CONTAINER:** a puncture-resistant, leak-proof, rigid container that can be closed for handling, storage, transportation and disposal and is labeled with the Universal Biological Hazard Symbol
- (28) **SHARPS:** all objects (sterile or contaminated) that may purposely or accidentally cut the skin or mucosa including, but not limited to, single use needles, scalpel blades and razor blades. It does not include disposable safety razors that have not broken the skin.
- (29) **SINGLE-USE:** Disposable product or material that shall be discarded after one use on one individual.
- (30) **STERILIZATION:** a process that results in the total destruction of all forms of microbial life, including highly resistant bacterial spores.
- (31) **STERILIZER:** an autoclave that is designed and labeled by the manufacturer as a medical instrument sterilizer and is used for the destruction of microorganisms and their spores.

- (32) **TATTOOING:** inserting pigment under the surface of the human skin or mucosa by pricking with a needle or other means, to permanently change the color or appearance of the human skin or to produce an indelible mark or figure visible through the human skin.
- (33) **UNIVERSAL PRECAUTIONS:** a set of precautions designed to prevent transmission of human immunodeficiency virus (HIV), hepatitis B and other blood borne pathogens as defined by the Centers for Disease Control. Under Universal Precautions, blood and certain body fluids of all individuals are considered infectious.

Section 2: MINIMUM REQUIREMENTS FOR BODY ARTISTS

- A. All body artists shall comply with the following:
 - (1) Possess and demonstrate knowledge of universal precautions, disinfection and sterilization techniques, and procedures for infection and exposure control required in section 7.A (1), and the Infectious Waste Management Plan required in Section 7.A (2)d.
 - (2) Receive vaccination against hepatitis B (HBV) or provide a written statement to the manager or owner of the body art establishment stating that he or she declines the vaccination.

Section 3: MINIMUM REQUIREMENTS FOR BODY ART ESTABLISHMENTS

- A. No body art establishment shall operate within Las Animas and Huerfano Counties without obtaining a Body Art Establishment Certificate of Inspection from Las Animas-Huerfano Counties District Health Department. The first annual inspection of a new body art establishment will be conducted within thirty (30) days after its opening for business. A certificate of inspection shall be issued to the establishment operator after substantial compliance has been achieved. A determination of substantial compliance shall be noted on the annual inspection report or a subsequent follow-up inspection report. A certificate of inspection shall be valid for a period of one (1) year and shall be renewable after each annual inspection.
- B. The body art establishment must have a person(s) in charge at all times who is responsible for the operation.
- C. The following information on each employee of a body art establishment shall be on file and available for inspection by the Department.
 - (1) Full legal name
 - (2) Home address
 - (3) Home phone number
 - (4) Proof that all employees handling sharps and/or infectious waste have either completed or were offered and declined, in writing, the hepatitis

B vaccination series. This offering shall be included as a pre-employment requirement and comply with 2.A (2).

- C. The person in charge shall have access to the following information and it shall be on the premises for review by the Department:
- (1) Contract or agreement for sharps disposal and/or other Infectious/Regulated Waste disposal
 - (2) Spore test log and test results
 - (3) Client records
 - (4) Manufacturer's information on sterilization equipment
 - (5) Infection and exposure control written procedures

Section 4: CLIENT RECORDS

- A. The person in charge shall have access to and shall maintain client records on the premise for a minimum of three (3) years. The client records shall be available for review by the Department.
- B. The following information shall be documented and used by the body artist to determine the client's suitability for receiving a body art procedure. In order to assure insofar as possible the proper healing of a client following a body art procedure, the client shall be asked to disclose if he/she has any of the following:
- (1) Diabetes
 - (2) Hemophilia
 - (3) Skin diseases or skin lesions
 - (4) Allergies or adverse reactions to latex, pigments, dyes, disinfectants, soaps or metals
 - (5) Treatment with anticoagulants or other medications that thin the blood and/or interfere with blood clotting
 - (6) Any other information that would aid the body artist in the client's body art healing process evaluation
- C. Completion of a client consent form prior to any procedure that shall include the following:
- (1) Name, age, address and current phone number of the client
 - (2) Date of the procedure
 - (3) The type and location of the body art
 - (4) Documentation that both written and verbal instructions regarding risks, outcome and aftercare were given to the client including:
 - a. Name, address, and phone number of the establishment and the name of the body artist who performed the procedure;
 - b. Direction of when to consult a physician to include signs of infection, allergic reaction and expected duration of healing;
 - c. Detailed description of how to care for the body art procedure site;
 - d. Explanation that body art should be considered permanent; and
 - e. Possible side effects from the procedure.

Section 5: FACILITY AND OPERATIONAL REQUIREMENTS

- A. All procedure areas and instrument cleaning areas shall have floors, walls and ceilings constructed of smooth, nonabsorbent and easily cleanable material. Outer openings shall provide protection against contamination from dust and other contaminants.
- B. Toilet facilities shall be provided and shall be made available to both patrons and employees during all business hours. Floors and walls within toilet facilities shall be constructed of smooth, nonabsorbent and easily cleanable material.
- C. The premises shall be maintained clean and in good repair.
- D. At least fifty (50) foot candles of artificial light shall be provided at the level where the body art procedure is performed and in instrument cleaning and sterilization areas.
- E. All surfaces, including, but not limited to, counters, tables, equipment, chairs, recliners, shelving and cabinets in the procedure area and instrument cleaning room shall be made of smooth, nonabsorbent materials to allow for easy cleaning and disinfection.
- F. Hand sinks shall be supplied with hot and cold running water delivered through a mixing faucet and under pressure. Hand sinks shall be easily accessible to each procedure area and shall be located so that one artist does not potentially contaminate another artist's area. Each hand sink shall be provided with soap and disposable towels or a hand-drying device providing heated air. In addition, a hand sink shall be provided in or adjacent to each toilet room.
- G. Distinct, separate areas shall be used for cleaning equipment, wrapping/packaging equipment, and for the handling and storage of sterilized equipment.
- H. Instrument cleaning sinks, hand-washing sinks, and, where provided, utility sinks shall be separate and shall only be used for their designated purpose.
- I. Water shall be supplied from a source approved by the Department.
- J. Sewage, including liquid wastes, shall be discharged to a sanitary sewer or to a sewage system constructed, operated and maintained according to law.
- K. Refuse, excluding infectious wastes, shall be placed in a lined waste receptacle and disposed of at a frequency that does not create a health or sanitation hazard.
- L. All facilities shall have a waiting area that is separate from the body art procedure area, and from the instrument cleaning, sterilization, and storage areas.
- M. Reusable cloth items shall be mechanically washed with detergent in water at a minimum of 140° F, unless an approved disinfectant is applied in the rinse cycle or

the dryer uses heat above 140° F as specified by the manufacturer. Clean cloth items shall be stored in a clean, dry environment until used. Soiled laundry shall be stored in a nonabsorbent container until removed for laundering and shall be stored separate from clean cloths.

- N. Animals shall not be allowed in the body art procedure areas, or the instrument cleaning, sterilization, or storage areas. Fish aquariums and/or service animals shall be allowed in waiting rooms and non-procedural areas.
- O. All chemicals shall be labeled with contents, properly stored, and used according to label instructions.
- P. All body art establishments shall be completely separated from areas used for human habitation, food preparation, or other such activities that may cause potential contamination of work surfaces.
- Q. Utensil washing and utility sinks with threaded faucets shall be equipped with back flow prevention devices approved by the Department.
- R. Sharps and Infectious/Regulated Waste must be handled in a manner consistent with §25-15-401, CRS.
 - (1) Discarded sharps shall be disposed of in sharps containers.
 - (2) Infectious/Regulated waste other than sharps shall be placed in impervious, tear resistant, plastic bags, which are red in color and marked with the Universal Biological Hazard Symbol
 - (3) Sharps and Infectious/Regulated waste shall be disposed of by an approved, off-site treatment facility, or waste may be treated on-site if the treatment complies with all federal, state and local requirements.
 - (4) On-site treatment requires a written plan outlining disposal as required in Section 7.A (2)d.

Section 6: TEMPORARY, SPECIAL EVENT AND MOBILE BODY ART REQUIREMENTS

- A. All provisions of these regulations shall apply with the following exceptions:
 - (1) Hand wash facilities shall be easily accessible to each procedure area and designated for use by artists only. Hand wash facilities shall comply with 5.F or, temporary hand wash facilities shall consist of soap, single use paper towels and an adequate supply of potable water dispensed through a continuous flow spout. Wastewater shall be collected and disposed of in a sanitary manner.
 - (2) Body artists may bring pre-sterilized instruments, or instruments which have been sterilized at another location with documentation showing a negative spore test result within the previous 30 days. On site sterilization units may be used and shall comply with Section 8.C.
- B. After the last procedure is completed, all procedure areas shall be cleaned and disinfected.

Section 7: INFECTION AND EXPOSURE CONTROL WRITTEN PROCEDURES

A. Written Procedures

- (1) Every body art establishment shall have and comply with written procedures for infection and exposure control. All procedures developed for the written plan shall be in compliance with standards, and all local and state regulations.
- (2) These written procedures shall include, but are not limited to:
 - a. Instrument cleaning and sterilization
 - b. Cleaning and disinfection of the procedure area(s), as required in Section 9.B(7).
 - c. Universal Precautions procedures
 - d. Infectious Waste Management plan, consistent with CRS 25-15-401, including segregation, identification, packaging, storage, transport, treatment, disposal and contingency planning for blood spills or loss of containment of Infectious/Regulated Waste.

Section 8: INSTRUMENTS/STERILIZATION

A. Instrument Cleaning

- (1) All instruments that penetrate body tissue shall be properly cleaned prior to packaging and sterilization. All other instruments shall be cleaned and disinfected after each use.
- (2) All instruments placed in the procedure area shall be repackaged and re-sterilized.
- (3) Employees shall wear heavy-duty, multi-use, and waterproof gloves while cleaning instruments.
- (4) Used instruments shall be soaked in a disinfectant until cleaning can be performed. The solution shall be changed in a time as recommended by the solution manufacturer.
- (5) Instruments shall be disassembled for cleaning.
- (6) All instrument components shall be cleaned, either manually or in an ultrasonic cleaner, using the appropriate cleaning agent specific to the type of cleaning performed.

B. Instrument Packaging/wrapping

- (1) Employees shall wear clean gloves while packaging/wrapping instruments.
- (2) Instruments shall be wrapped or packaged with a sterilizer indicator on or in each package.
- (3) All packages shall be labeled with the time and date of sterilization.
- (4) Packages will no longer be considered sterile six months after the sterilization date has been reached, or if otherwise compromised in any step leading up to a procedure.

C. Instrument Sterilization

- (1) The sterilizer shall be designed and labeled as a medical instrument sterilizer.
- (2) The operators' manual for the sterilizer shall be available on the premise and the sterilizer shall be operated according to manufacturer's recommendations.
- (3) The sterilizer shall be cleaned and maintained according to manufacturer's specifications.
- (4) A sterilizer load log shall be maintained for a minimum of three years at the facility and made available for inspection. The log shall contain the following documentation for each load:
 - a. Description of instruments contained in the load;
 - b. Date of sterilization load, and time or other unique identifier if more than one load is processed during a single day
 - c. Sterilizer cycle time and temperature;
 - d. Indication of proper sterilization of instruments, as evidenced by the appropriate color indicator change on each package. Indicator used shall be compatible with the sterilization process being used; and
 - e. Action taken when appropriate color indicator change did not occur.
- (5) Sterilizer Monitoring
 - a. Sterilizer monitoring shall be performed at least monthly (unless more frequent monitoring is specified by the manufacturer) by using a commercial biological monitoring (spore) system.
 - b. All biological indicators shall be analyzed by a laboratory independent from the establishment.
 - c. Biological indicator test results shall be maintained on the premises for a minimum of three (3) years and must be available for inspection at all times.

D. Instrument Storage

- (1) Hands shall be washed prior to handling sterilized instrument packs.
- (2) After sterilization, the instruments shall be stored in a dry, clean area reserved for storage of sterile instruments.

E. Single Use Items

- (1) Single use items shall not be used on more than one client and shall be disposed of after the procedure.
- (2) Contaminated single use needles, razors and other sharps shall be disposed of immediately in approved sharps containers.

Section 9: BODY ART PROCEDURE

A. The Following actions are prohibited:

- (1) Procedures performed on any person who is noticeably impaired by drugs or alcohol.
- (2) Smoking, eating and drinking in the procedure and/or instrument cleaning areas.

- (3) Procedures performed on skin surfaces that have sunburn, rash, pimples, boils, infections, moles, or manifest any evidence of unhealthy conditions.

B. The following procedures shall be practiced by all body artists:

- (1) Thoroughly wash hands with soap and warm water for at least 15 seconds:
 - a. Before and after each procedure/service of client.
 - b. Before donning new gloves/after removing gloves.
 - c. Before leaving the procedure area.
 - d. Immediately upon return to the procedure area.
 - e. After using a toilet facility.
 - f. After touching any other surface that could lead to possible contamination.

Following thorough washing, hands shall be dried using clean, disposable paper towels, or a hand-drying device providing heated air.

- (2) Wear new, clean gloves for each procedure. If a glove is pierced, torn or contaminated, both gloves must be properly removed and discarded. Hands shall be washed prior to donning a new pair of gloves.
- (3) Change drapes, lap cloths or aprons between each client. If multi-use, these items shall be washed according to Section 5.M prior to reuse.
- (4) Wear new, clean gloves while assembling instruments and supplies to be used in the procedure. All sterilized instruments shall remain in the sterile packages until opened in front of the client.
- (5) Dispense all substances used in the procedures from containers in a manner to prevent contamination of the unused portion. For example, substances from multi-use containers shall be dispensed into single use portions and shall be applied to only one client.
- (6) Discard single use ointment tubes, applicators and supplies after the procedure.
- (7) After each client, use a disinfectant according to label instructions, and a single use paper towel to wipe all surfaces touched during the procedure. Surfaces include, but are not limited to, counters, tables, equipment, chairs, recliners, shelving, cabinets, and supplies.

C. Procedures specific to tattooing

- (1) The use of hectographic or single-use stencils shall be required for applying a tattoo outline to the skin, except that, when the design is drawn free hand, non-toxic single use markers or other non-toxic single use devices shall be used. Multi-use stencils are prohibited unless they can be properly disinfected between uses.
- (2) Before placing the design on the skin, the body artist shall clean the area with soap and, if necessary, shave off any hair with a disposable, single use safety razor or a disinfected multi-use razor. The area shall be treated with an antiseptic prior to stencil application.
- (3) Inks, dyes, or pigments in single use containers shall be used for each client. Any remaining unused dye or pigment shall be discarded immediately following the tattoo procedure.

- (4) Excess ink, dye, or pigment applied to the skin during tattooing shall be removed with a clean single use product.
- (5) After the procedure is completed, the area shall be covered with clean gauze or an appropriate bandage and held in place with a suitable skin tape.

D. Procedures specific to Body Piercing

- (1) All body piercing needles shall be sterile, single use, and manufactured for either medical or body piercing purposes. All needles shall be disposed of immediately after use in a sharps container.
- (2) Only sterilized jewelry or new jewelry that has been disinfected and is clean and in good condition shall be used.
- (3) Stud-and-clasp systems shall be used according to manufacturer's instructions and shall only be used on the earlobe or the outer perimeter of the ear.

Section 10: INSPECTIONS

- A. Agents of the Department, after proper identification, shall be permitted to enter any body art establishment during business hours for the purpose of making inspections, investigating complaints and to determine compliance with these regulations. Agents of the Department shall only enter a procedure area with the client's consent.
- B. The agents shall be permitted to examine documents or true copies of documents relative to requirements of these regulations.
- C. Whenever an inspection of a body art establishment is made the findings shall be recorded and shall describe violations that exist. A copy of the completed report shall be furnished to the person in charge by the end of the next workday following conclusion of the inspection.
- D. Body art establishments must display the most recent certificate of inspection issued by the Department. The certificate must be placed in a location that is visible to clients as well as anyone entering the establishment.