

This Fact Sheet explains safe practices, minimum standards, and infection control procedures and incorporates “best practice” information for owners/operators of skin penetration premises. The risk of transmission of infection can be minimised by ensuring that premises are maintained in a clean and hygienic manner, “Standard Procedures” are used, effective sterilisation of equipment is achieved and waste is disposed of correctly.

Unsafe or unhygienic procedures may affect the health of both the client and the operator. Where procedures involving skin penetration are not managed correctly, they may transmit bacterial, fungal and viral infections, including HIV, Hepatitis B and Hepatitis C. The aims are to minimise the risk of transmission of micro-organisms, promote safe work environments and promote public awareness of safe working practices and procedures and to be user friendly.

Anyone who carries out skin penetration procedures away from fixed premises must comply with the Public Health Regulations 1991 and Guideline. All mobile operators need to be registered with their base local authority. As operators move between local authorities, each individual local authority must be notified.

Mobile facilities must receive an initial inspection from the base local authority to ensure compliance with the Guideline and structural requirements. Additional inspections are required at every site, prior to operation.

A mobile operator must provide the following information to the local authority 14 days prior to operation -

- The procedures to be carried out;
- The length of time at the site;
- The location;
- Where waste will be disposed; and
- Approvals given by home/base local authority.

The host local authority must inspect all mobile facilities prior to operation.

Skin penetration procedures must not be carried out at shows, outdoor events and conventions unless this Guideline can be complied with and local authority approval is obtained.

**Mobile operators must have direct access to hand washing facilities with liquid soap, paper towel and hot and cold running water provided through a single spout.**

The preparation of procedure packs with sufficient equipment for each client will assist operators in complying with this Guideline. There must be adequate sterile equipment for all clients in between base returns.

Mobile operators must have facilities to adequately store all equipment, linen and waste safely before and after use and while in transport

The mobile establishment must be maintained in a clean condition at all times. The mobile facility must not be used for food preparation or accommodation.

If the mobile facility does not have an autoclave, they must use single-use pre-sterilised equipment for all procedures.

All facilities must be connected to the sewer or have a wastewater storage tank suitable for the reception of all liquid waste arising from the premises. Wastewater storage tanks must be discharged to the sewer.

**Note:** *This Code is based on the requirements of the Public Health Regulation 1991 and the Skin Penetration Guidelines prepared by the NSW Health Department and should be read in conjunction with those documents.*

### Disclaimers

This Fact Sheet was believed to be correct at the date of its approval.  
This Fact Sheet is for general information purposes only.

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