

Public Health (Hairdressing) Code of Practice 2000

INSTRUMENT NO. 11 OF 2000

I determine the following code of practice under the *Public Health Act 1997*.

Dated 12 January 2000.

GARY HUMPHRIES

Minister

PART 1 - PRELIMINARY

1 Name of code

This code is the *Public Health (Hairdressing) Code of Practice 2000*.

2 Commencement

This code commences on 15 January 2000.

3 Dictionary

(1) The dictionary at the end of this code defines certain words and expressions, and includes references to certain words and expressions defined elsewhere in this code.

(2) The dictionary is part of this code.

(3) A definition in this code applies to each use of the word or expression in this code unless the contrary intention appears.

Note 1 The dictionary defines certain words and expressions used in this code, and includes references (*signpost definitions*) to other words and expressions defined elsewhere in this code or in other legislation.

For example, the signpost definition '*authorised officer*—see *Public Health Act 1997*, subsection 5 (1)' indicates that the expression *authorised officer* is defined in s 5 (1) of that Act and that the definition applies to this code.

Note 2 A definition in the dictionary (including a signpost definition) applies to the entire code unless the definition, or another provision of the code, provides otherwise or the contrary intention otherwise appears (see *Interpretation Act 1967*, s 11F and s 11G as applied by the *Subordinate Laws Act 1989*, s 9).

PART 2 - APPLICATION

4 Proprietors and hairdressers

This code applies to the following persons:

- (a) a person (a *proprietor*) engaged in the business of hairdressing;
- (b) a person (a *hairdresser*) who carries on the occupation of hairdressing (including a barber).

Note Under the *Public Health Risk (Hairdressing) Declaration 2000*, for the purposes of the *Public Health Act 1997*—

- it is a licensable public health risk activity to engage in the business of hairdressing; and
- it is a non-licensable public health risk procedure to carry on the occupation of hairdressing.

PART 3—PROPRIETORS' RESPONSIBILITIES

5 Hairdressing premises

The proprietor of a hairdressing business must ensure that the following requirements are complied with at all premises occupied by the proprietor where the business is conducted (*hairdressing premises*):

- (a) there must be 1 or more hand basins at least 300mm x 200mm at the basin throat opening, with a minimum capacity of 10 litres;
- (b) the basin must be fitted with effective waste pipes suitably trapped and vented;
- (c) there must be enough clean hot and cold water when the premises are open for business;
- (d) there must be enough paper towels and liquid soap for the use of hairdressers and other staff;
- (e) the walls, floors, floor coverings, fittings, furniture and appliances must be clean and in good repair;
- (f) hair clippings and other trade waste must be placed in a watertight bin with a close-fitting lid as soon as possible after attending a customer;
- (g) there must be a separate sink that is only used for cleaning equipment, which must be large enough to allow the largest appliance used in the business to be cleaned under Part 6;
- (h) the premises must be routinely cleaned to reduce the level of environmental contamination;
- (i) an appliance no longer used in the course of the business must not be kept on the premises;
- (j) a regular pest control program must be carried out.

6 Hairdressing staff

The proprietor of a hairdressing business must take reasonable steps to ensure that all hairdressers engaged for the business comply with this code.

PART 4—MOBILE HAIRDRESSERS

7 Mobile hairdressers

If a hairdressing business is conducted at a place other than hairdressing premises, the hairdresser (or hairdressers) involved must take reasonable steps to ensure that the following requirements are complied with at that place while hairdressing is taking place there:

- (a) there must be enough clean hot and cold water to clean appliances and hands;
- (b) the place must be as clean as is necessary for the purposes of the hairdressing treatment;
- (c) there must be enough paper towels and liquid soap for the use of hairdressers and other persons engaged for the business;
- (d) hair clippings and other trade waste must be placed in a watertight bin with a close-fitting lid as soon as possible after each customer is attended to.

PART 5—SANITATION

8 Cleanliness of hands and clothes

A hairdresser must—

- (a) thoroughly wash his or her hands with liquid soap and clean water before attending to a customer; and
- (b) be clean and wearing clean clothes when attending to a customer.

9 Hairdressers with transmissible conditions

(1) A hairdresser who has a condition that may be transmitted to someone else as a result of hairdressing (including ringworm, scabies, lice and impetigo) must take reasonable precautions (appropriate to the condition) not to transmit the condition.

(2) In this clause—

reasonable precautions includes precautions taken on the advice of a doctor or an authorised officer.

10 Routine cleaning

A hairdresser must, after attending a customer, dispose of all contaminated paper towelling used while attending the customer.

11 Re-usable towels

A hairdresser may only use a re-usable face towel, neck protector, neck cloth or similar article on a customer that has been washed since it was last used for another customer.

12 Clean water for shaving

A hairdresser must use clean water to shave a customer.

13 Soap for shaving

A hairdresser may only use liquid soap, shaving cream or shaving powder to shave a customer.

14 Rotary hairbrushes, sponges, powder puffs, block substances

A hairdresser must not use a rotary hairbrush on a customer or apply a sponge, powder puff or substance in block form to a customer's skin.

PART 6—APPLIANCES

15 Compliance with this Part

A hairdresser must follow the procedures required by this Part for the cleaning and decontamination of appliances.

16 General cleaning and disinfection

- (1) Appliances must be cleaned after each use as follows:
- (a) appliances that may be completely immersed in water (including scissors, hooks, brushes and combs) must be cleaned using the immersion cleaning method;
 - (b) appliances that may not be completely immersed in water (including electric razors and clippers) must be cleaned using the non-immersion cleaning method;
 - (c) an appliance that has been contaminated during that use with blood or body fluids must be cleaned using the decontamination cleaning method.

Note 1 For single-use razors and safety razors, additional procedures are set out at cl 17.

Note 2 The different cleaning methods are set out at cl 18, cl 19 and cl 20 below, and illustrated in the Schedule.

- (2) An appliance must not be placed in disinfectant without prior cleaning under this code, or while wet.
- (3) An appliance must not be stored in disinfectant.
- (4) A UV cabinet may only be used for the storage of appliances that have been cleaned under this code.

17 Razors

- (1) Cutthroat razors must not be used.
- (2) Single-use razors (that is, razors for which replacement blades are not supplied) must be disposed of after a single use in a 'sharps' container that complies with Australian Standard 4031-1992, as varied from time to time.
- (3) Safety razors must be processed after each use as follows:
- (a) disassemble the razor;

- (b) discard the blade in a 'sharps' container that complies with Australian Standard 4031-1992, as varied from time to time;
 - (c) clean the body of the razor using the following method:
 - (i) rinse in warm water;
 - (ii) wash in warm water;
 - (iii) rinse in hot water (minimum 75° C);
 - (iv) dry thoroughly;
 - (v) wipe the body of the razor with a 70% alcohol solution;
 - (vi) store dry.
- (4) Electric razors and clippers must be cleaned after each use using the non-immersion cleaning method.

18 Immersion cleaning method

For this code, the *immersion cleaning method* for an appliance that may be completely immersed in water (as illustrated by diagram 1 of the Schedule) is as follows:

- (a) rinse in warm water;
- (b) wash in warm water;
- (c) rinse in hot water (minimum 75° C);
- (d) dry thoroughly;
- (e) store dry.

19 Non-immersion cleaning method

For this code, the *non-immersion cleaning method* for an appliance that may not be completely immersed in water (as illustrated by diagram 2 of the Schedule) is as follows:

- (a) remove hair with a brush;
- (b) remove any part of the appliance that may be completely immersed in water (for example, the cutting head of an electric razor) and clean using the immersion cleaning method;
- (c) ensure that appliance is disconnected from its power supply (if necessary) and wipe the part of the appliance that may not be completely immersed in water with a 70% alcohol solution;
- (d) store the appliance dry (either assembled or disassembled).

20 Decontamination cleaning method

(1) For this code, the *decontamination cleaning method* for an appliance that may be completely immersed in water (as illustrated by diagram 3 in the Schedule) is as follows:

- (a) rinse in warm water;
- (b) wash in warm water;
- (c) rinse in hot water (minimum 75° C);
- (d) first dry, then disinfect the appliance;
- (e) dry thoroughly;
- (f) store dry.

(2) For this code, the *decontamination cleaning method* for an appliance that may not be completely immersed in water (as illustrated by diagram 4 in the Schedule) is as follows:

- (a) remove hair with a brush;
- (b) remove any part of the appliance that may be completely immersed in water (for example, the cutting head of an electric razor) and clean using the method described in subclause (1);
- (c) ensure that the appliance is disconnected from its power supply (if necessary) and wipe the part of the appliance that may not be completely immersed in water with a 70% alcohol solution;
- (d) store the appliance dry (either assembled or disassembled).

(3) In this clause—

disinfect means—

- (a) immerse in a disinfectant (other than a standard household or hospital grade disinfectant) approved by a public health officer;
or
- (b) immerse in rapidly boiling water for at least 2 minutes.

21 Facilities for cleaning and decontaminating appliances

The proprietor of a hairdressing business must ensure that the facilities for cleaning and decontaminating appliances that are available for use in the business are sufficient for compliance with this Part.

PART 7—ACCIDENTS

22 Dealing with cuts

If a person is cut by an appliance in the course of a hairdressing business, the hairdresser involved must ensure that the following procedure is implemented:

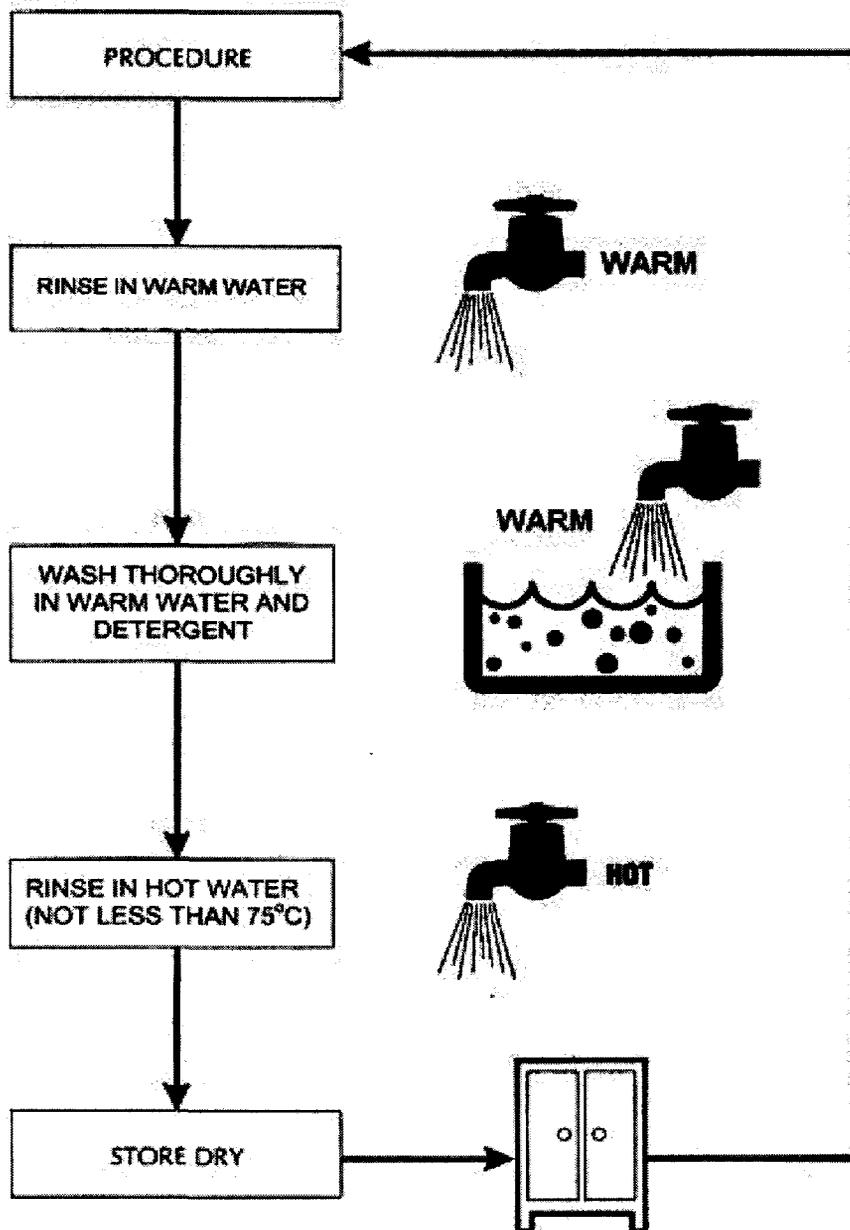
- (a) if the person is bleeding, the person must be asked to apply pressure to the wound with a dry sterile disposable dressing until the bleeding has stopped;
- (b) the dressing and the appliance must be handled carefully to avoid contact with blood or body fluids;
- (c) contaminated dressings must be disposed of as required by the *Clinical Waste Act 1990*;
- (d) the appliance must be disposed of, or cleaned using the decontamination cleaning method;
- (e) any person who has handled contaminated dressings or the appliance must wash his or her hands thoroughly.

SCHEDULE
CLEANING METHODS

(See cl 18, cl 19 and cl 20)

Diagram 1—Immersion cleaning method (cl 18)

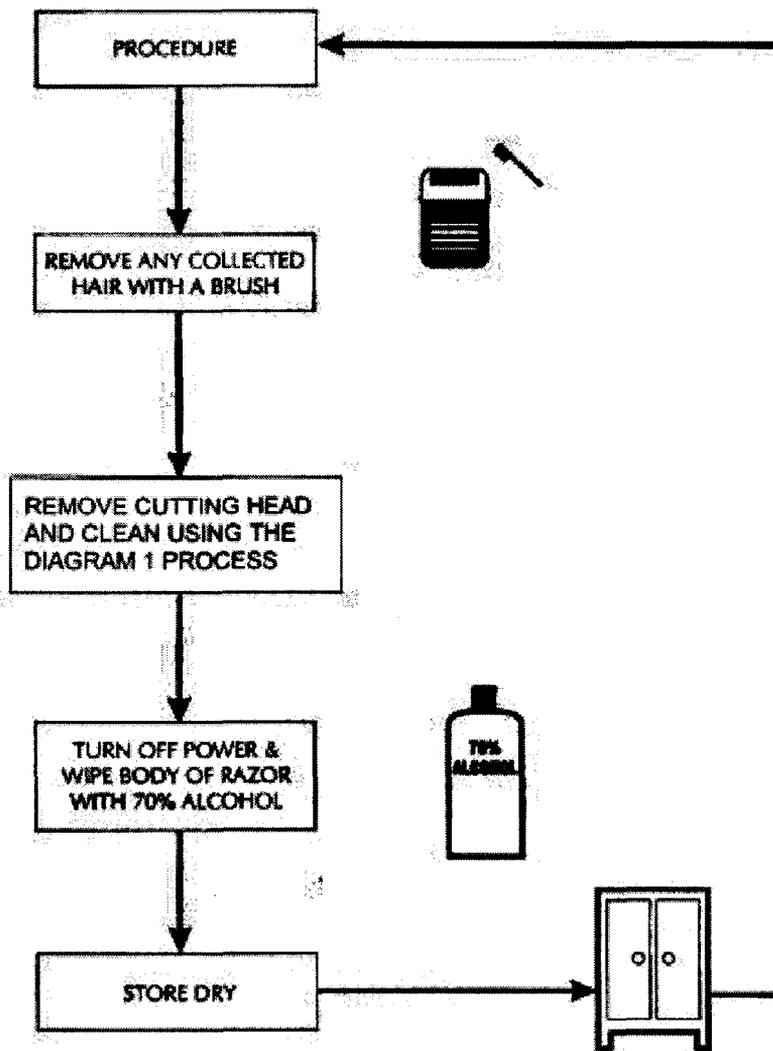
Note This illustrates the cleaning method for appliances that may be completely immersed in water. Diagram 2 illustrates the cleaning method for appliances that may not be completely immersed in water.



SCHEDULE—continued

Diagram 2—Non-immersion cleaning method (cl 19)

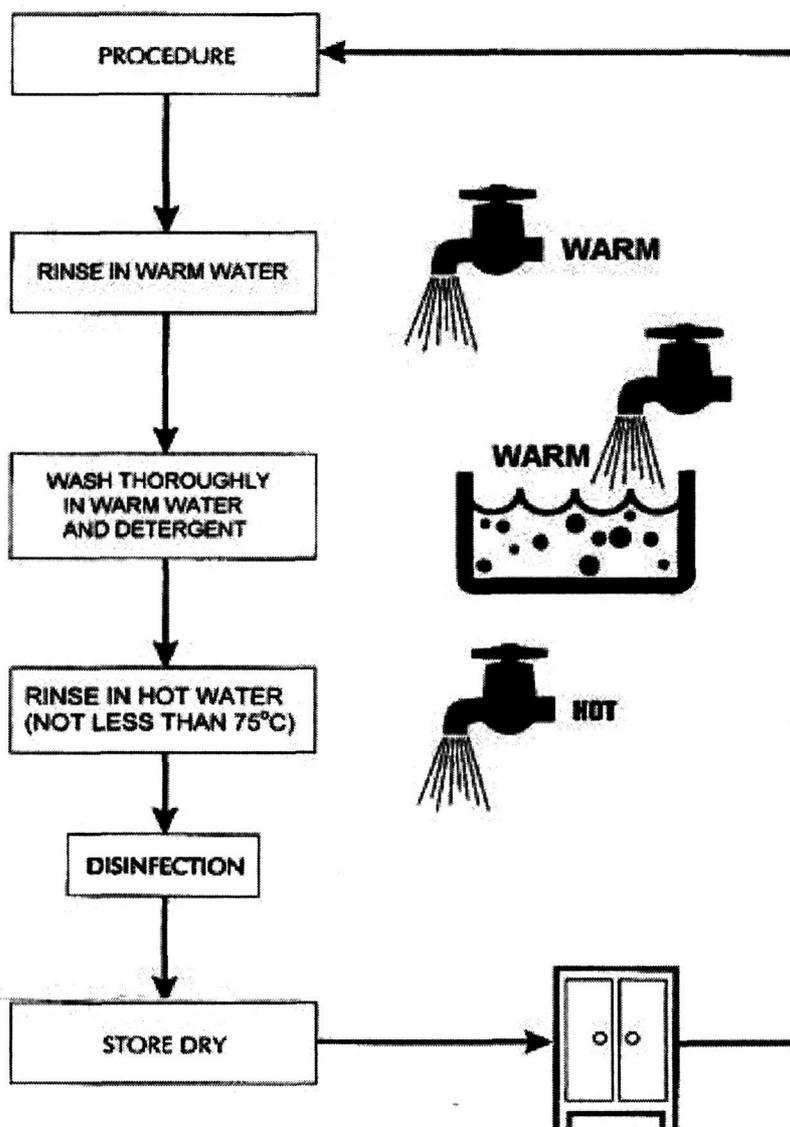
Note This illustrates the non-immersion cleaning method using the example of an electric clipper or razor. The method described is also applicable to other appliances that may not be completely immersed in water.



SCHEDULE—continued

Diagram 3—Decontamination cleaning method
(immersible appliances) (cl 20 (1))

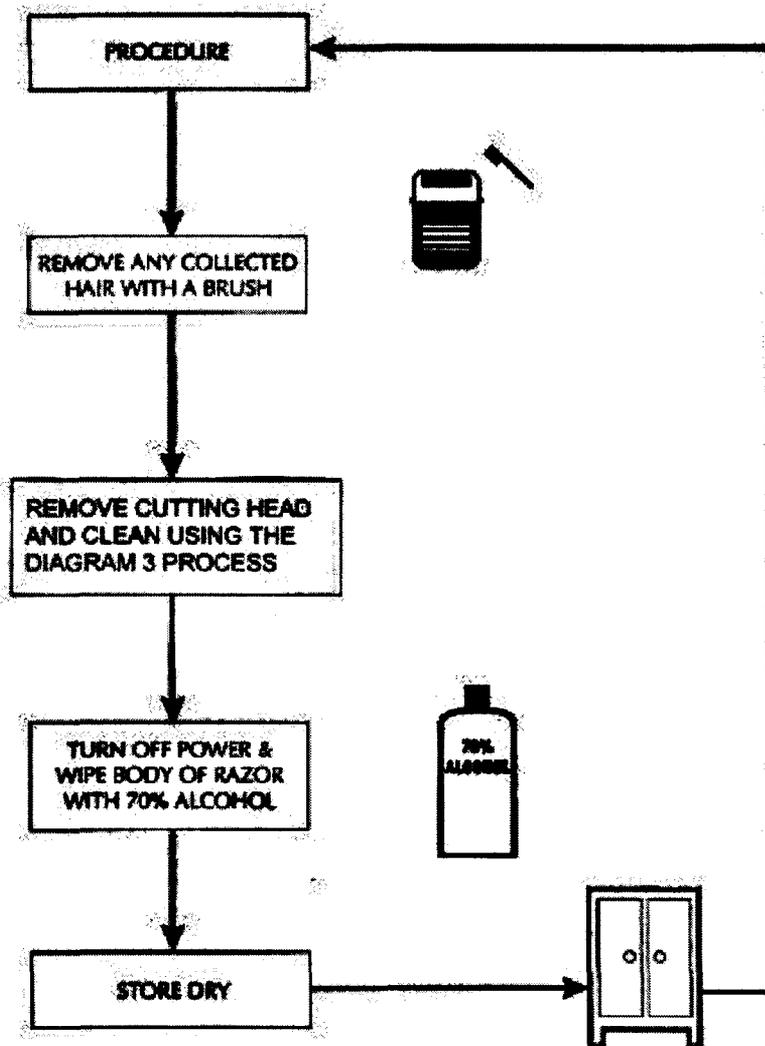
Note This illustrates the decontamination cleaning method for appliances that may be completely immersed in water. Diagram 4 illustrates the decontamination cleaning method for appliances that may not be completely immersed in water.



SCHEDULE—continued

Diagram 4—Decontamination cleaning method
(non-immersible appliances) (cl 20 (2))

Note This illustrates the decontamination cleaning method for appliances that may not be completely immersed in water, using the example of an electric clipper or razor. The method described is also applicable to other appliances that may not be completely immersed in water.



DICTIONARY

(See clause 3)

appliance means an appliance for use in a hairdressing business.

authorised medical officer—see *Public Health Act 1997*, subsection 5 (1).

authorised officer—see *Public Health Act 1997*, subsection 5 (1).

cleaning means the removal of foreign material from an object or person (for example, soil or organic material).

decontamination cleaning method—see clause 20.

hairdresser—see paragraph 4 (b).

hairdressing means treating the hair of a person for payment, and includes shaving, trimming, dressing, waving, curling, staining or dying a person's hair for payment.

hairdressing premises—see clause 5.

immersion cleaning method—see clause 18.

non-immersion cleaning method—see clause 19.

proprietor of a hairdressing business—see paragraph 4 (a).

wash means wash with detergent and water.