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Industry Bulletin - Dermaplaning

Effective January 1, 2022, dermaplaning is within the scope of practice for both estheticians and cosmetologists. Licensees should ensure they are fully trained prior to performing these services to ensure the safety of the consumer. The Board of Barbering and Cosmetology (Board) cannot recommend specific training vendors or schools, but below are some best practices that any reputable company or school should be teaching and that licensees should keep in mind. The Board encourages licensees to discuss this service with their liability insurance carrier to ensure they meet requirements for coverage and also encourages licensees to obtain additional blood and fluid borne pathogen training from county and/or state resources (such as the Division of Occupational Safety and Health, better known as Cal/OSHA).

Dermaplaning (also known as dermablading) is a procedure of exfoliating the epidermis by the use of a razor-edged tool (typically a single use surgical blade with a rounded end) to remove fine vellus hair (peach fuzz) and as a method of exfoliation for the skin.

Best Practices

- Wash your hands prior to providing any service and consider wearing gloves while providing dermaplaning services.
- Do not provide waxing, threading, sugaring or other hair removal services at the dermaplane appointment. Perform other hair removal services 1-2 weeks before a dermaplane service.
- Advise the consumer to not exfoliate (physical or chemical) 3-5 days prior to the service. The use of topical prescription exfoliants should be discontinued for 7-14 days or otherwise advised by the consumer's prescribing physician.
- Remind the consumer to avoid movement, talking and other distractions during the service.
- Examine the consumer's skin for open acne wounds, abrasions, sunburn, or other irritation. If present, do not perform the service.
- Dispose of single use blades in a sharps container and not in a regular waste receptacles.
 Contact the California Department of Public Health's Medical Waste Management Program for information on what to do with a full sharps container.

As with any service, licensees are expected to follow all of the Board's health and safety regulations. For this service in particular, the Board recommends licensees review sections 979, 981, and 990 of Title 16, Division 9 of the California Code of Regulations.