Guidelines

Health Guidelines for Spas, Hair and Beauty Salons to Prevent Covid-19 Spread

Objective
To provide recommended practices to salons’ owners and operators, workers and customers that can be used to help mitigate the exposure to the COVID-19 virus.

Rationale
COVID-19 pandemic has struck the world due to rapid human-to-human transmission. Preventive measures play an important role in limiting the spread of the disease and can help reducing the infection transmission and unnecessary burden on health care facilities. The guidelines provide practices to owners, workers and customers that address specific health and safety concerns related to the spread of COVID-19, and to put protocols into practice at hair/beauty salons.

Instructions
Salons are required to observe following precautionary measures to avoid disease spread.

SOCIAL DISTANCING
- Limit customer number up to 50% of total salon capacity at a time.
- Arrange chairs so work areas are spaced out at least 6 feet apart.
- Install visual markers to encourage customers to remain at least 6 feet apart.
- Improve ventilation for enclosed spaces where possible (e.g., open doors and windows).
- Stagger lunch and break times. Regulate the maximum number of people in one place and ensure at least 6 feet of physical distancing.
- Close or reconfigure worker common spaces and high-density areas of facilities where workers are likely to congregate (e.g., break rooms, eating areas) to allow 6 feet of physical distancing.
- Require face coverings for all customers and workers.
- Require workers to wear gloves, gowns, and safety glasses or goggles.
- Install physical partitions between workstations where feasible.
- Contactless payment methods are encouraged.

HYGIENE PROTOCOLS
- Ensure access to handwashing facilities on site, including soap and running water, and allow sufficient break time for workers to wash hands frequently; alcohol-based hand sanitizers with at least 60% alcohol may be used as an alternative.
Suppliers are required to provide adequate cleaning products (e.g., sanitizer, disinfecting wipes). Suppliers must ensure that all cleaning products are used properly and stored properly. Suppliers are required to provide daily temperature screening for all employees and customers. Suppliers are required to provide proper signage and other safety measures to ensure the health and safety of all employees and customers.

STAFFING AND OPERATIONS

- Suppliers are required to provide training to workers on safety standards, up-to-date safety information, and precautions, including hygiene and other measures aimed at reducing disease transmission.
- Suppliers are required to maintain a log of employees and customers for 14 days, to support contact tracing (name, date, time, contact information) if needed.
- Suppliers are required to ensure that all employees and customers are screened for COVID-19 symptoms, and that employees who test positive for COVID-19 are notified to the workplace employer for purposes of cleaning and disinfecting and contact tracing. If the employer is notified of a positive case, the employer shall notify the local authorities in the city or town where the workplace is located and work with them to trace likely contacts in the workplace and advise workers to isolate and self-quarantine. Testing of other workers may be recommended.
- Suppliers are required to remove non-essential amenities (magazines, customer-facing water or coffee, coat rooms) and to ensure that all workers must stay home if feeling ill.
- Suppliers are required to ensure that all workers who are particularly vulnerable to COVID-19 (e.g., due to age or underlying conditions) are encouraged to stay home.
- Suppliers are required to encourage workers to self-identify symptoms or any close contact to a known or suspected COVID-19 case to the employer.
- Suppliers are required to conduct sentinel screening for COVID-19.

CLEANING AND DISINFECTING

- Suppliers are required to conduct frequent cleaning and disinfection of site (at least daily, and more frequently if feasible).
- Suppliers are required to keep cleaning logs that include date, time, and scope of cleaning.
- Suppliers are required to conduct frequent disinfecting of heavy transit areas and high-touch surfaces (e.g., doorknobs, rolling carts, bathrooms).
- Suppliers are required to shut down site for a deep cleaning and disinfecting of the workplace in event of a positive case.
- Suppliers are required to disinfect tools between customers (e.g., shampoo bowls, chairs and headrests, shears, combs, brushes, razors, styling tools).
- Suppliers are required to disinfect tools with alcohol-based disinfectant. Chlorine should be avoided due to its corrosive action which may damage the tools.
• Avoid use of towels under client’s head and prefer to use tissue.
• Clean and disinfect all make-up brushes after use with alcohol swab.
• Use disposable foam, sponge and other porous tools and discard them after single use.

Note: The above recommendations are being regularly reviewed by the Ministry of National Health Services, Regulations & Coordination and will be updated based on the international & national recommendations and best practices.

The Ministry acknowledges the contribution of Ms Javeria Yousaf and HSA/ HPSIU/ NIH team to compile these guidelines.

References

For more information, please contact:

HSA/ HPSIU/ NIH, PM National Health Complex, Islamabad

http://www.hsa.edu.pk/ https://www.youtube.com/NHSRC-PK