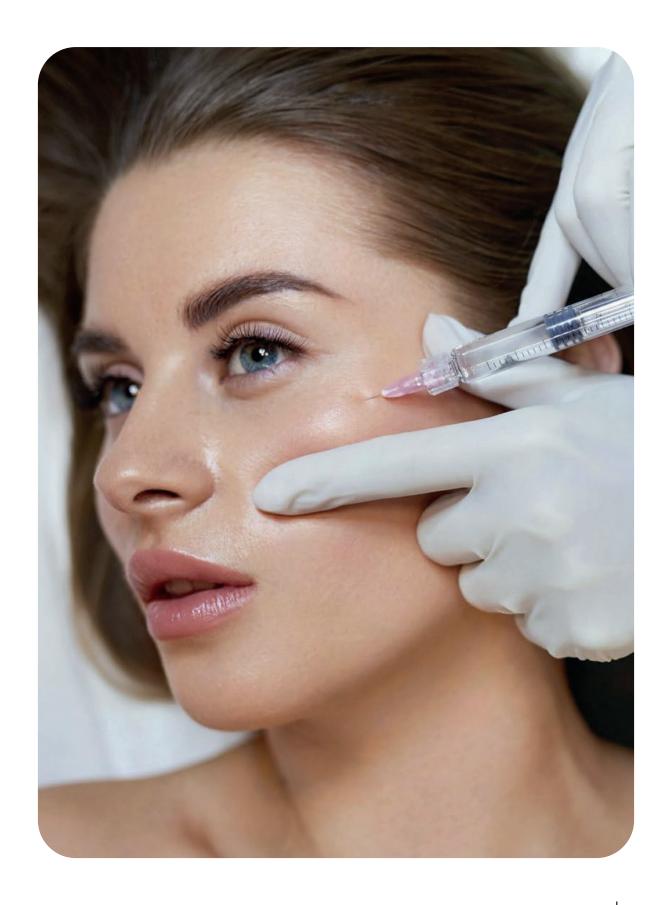


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# Welcome to your course!

Aim:

7

Objective:

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# **HEALTH & SAFETY**

Before you begin work as a beauty, holistic therapist or nail technician you will need to be aware of the legislation that you must comply with for the health and safety of yourself and your clients. You will need to understand what is expected of you as a professional. This includes how to conduct yourself in front of clients and interact with fellow professionals.

# Health and Safety at work Act 1974

The Health and Safety at Work Act require all employers to provide systems of work that are as far as reasonably practical, safe and without risks to anyone's health. As an employee, you have the responsibility to take care of yourselves and others that may be affected by their work.

As an employee, if you see something which could be potentially harmful, such as a hole in which a person could trip over, it is your immediate responsibility to report this to the management and to take some remedial action such as placing a sign or covering the hole, until a repair can be made.

The act also requires employers to take regular risk assessments to identify potential problems and prevent accidents or injuries from occurring. Health and safety rules and regulations are enforced by Environmental health officers who visit the workplace. Anyone who employs more than 5 people must have written health and safety policies. This should identify how health and safety are managed, including individual roles staff may have, such as first aid or fire safety.

#### **Risk Assessments**

Risk Assessments should be carried out to identify what may cause harm in your workplace, who is at risk and how accidents could happen, as well as actions you need to take to prevent them. You should record all the information provided and all staff should then act upon it. You can find templates for risk assessments on the website for Health & Safety Executive at www.hse.gov.uk

# Management of Health and Safety at Work regulations (1999)

It is the responsibility of the employer to make formal arrangements for maintaining and improving safe working conditions and practices. This includes any training and risk assessments.



# Health and Safety (Display Screen Equipment) Regulations (1992)

This covers the use of display screen equipment and computer screens. This specifies the acceptable levels of radiation emissions from the screen, as well as identifying the correct posture and number of rest periods.

### Provision and use of Work Equipment Regulations (1998)

This states any duties for any users of equipment. It identifies the requirements in selecting and maintaining suitable equipment, as well as the training and safe use of it.

### The Regulatory Reform (Fire Safety) Order (2005)

All premises must have adequate means of dealing with a fire and all members of staff should know where these are. This can include fire extinguishers and blankets; however, you should only operate a fire extinguisher if you have been properly trained to do so. All equipment should be checked and maintained regularly. Fire drill notices should be clearly displayed and should inform people of what do to in case of a fire. All staff should be trained in location of alarms, exits and meeting points.

### Manual handling operations Regulations 1992

The HSE (Health & Safety Executives) have drawn attention to musculoskeletal disorders caused by lifting and handling with an unsuitable posture, causing pain and injury. The regulations require that training in lifting and handling is performed to prevent such injuries from occurring.

# **Cash Handling**

Under the health and safety at work act, failure to provide a safe system of cash handling could lead to prosecution of the employer. For example, employers should consider this before sending a member of staff to the bank with cash as it is putting them in a potentially unsafe situation.

# PPE - Personal Protective Equipment at Work Regulations 1992

This act covers equipment and protective clothing to ensure the safety of all in the workplace. This act also states that personnel must have training in the use of such protective measures.

# RIDDOR - Reporting of Injuries, Diseases or Dangerous Occurrences Regulations 2013

This regulation states that if anyone dies, is seriously injured in an accident at work, or is off work for longer than 3 days as a result of an accident at work the employer must report it to the local authority environmental health department. Employers must keep a record in an accident book of any accident or disease. For legal reasons, even minor accidents should be recorded so that there can be an agreed record of what occurred and what action was taken.

# Performing Rights PPL & PRS

If recorded music is played on the premises, and heard by members of the public, then it is necessary to have a license from the phonographic Performance Ltd (PPL) which like the PRS (Performing Right Society) collects License payments as royalties distribution to certain copyright performers and record companies. This includes music on television channels, radios, CDs, and MP3 Players.

# **COSHH - Control of Substances Hazardous to Health Regulations 2002**

This law requires employers to control exposure to hazardous substances in the workplace. Most products used in the salon are reasonably safe, however, could become hazardous under certain conditions, or if used incorrectly.

Every therapist should be trained on how to use and store these products correctly. It is the Employers responsibility to assess the risk of hazardous substances and decide on any action to reduce the risks.

### Gas Safety (Installation & Use) Regulations 1998

This regulation relates to the use of and maintenance of gas supplies. The rights of entry regulations 1996 give GAS and HSE inspectors the right to enter premises and order the disconnection of dangerous and unsafe appliances. All work undertaken on Gas appliances should be done by registered engineers.

# **Electricity at Work Regulations 1989**

This regulation ensures the safety of the use of electricity. Part of this act is the operation and maintenance of electrical equipment in the salon. Equipment should be tested regularly (every 6 months) to ensure that all flexes and fuses are functioning properly. This does not necessarily need to be an electrician. Most salons have their equipment tested on an annual basis and are certified this is known as portable appliance testing (PAT).

# **Local Government (Miscellaneous Provisions) Act 1982**

Part 8 of the act provides local authorities with powers for the registration of persons who are performing skin piercing (ear piercing, acupuncture, etc). It applies to everyone whether working from a salon or mobile. Each local authority operates its own methods of inspection and licensing at its own cost. Fees vary depending on your location.

# **Trades Description Act 1968 (Amended 1987)**

This Act prohibits the use of false trade descriptions. Whether your own claim or repeating of a manufacturer's description, a false claim can be equally liable.

# Sale of Goods Act 1979 & Sale and Supply of Goods Act 1994

These acts cover consumer rights including goods being of satisfactory quality and the conditions in which the goods may be returned after purchase, and whether the goods are fit for their purpose.

# **Consumer Protection Act (1987)**

This act aims to protect the consumer from unsafe or defective services or products. All staff should be trained in the treatments they carry out and the equipment used in the salon.

# **Cosmetic Products Safety Regulations 2008**

These regulations were made under the Consumer Protection Act 1987 and implement EEC regulations regarding labelling, composition, marketing and description of cosmetic products.

### **Employers Liability (Compulsory Insurance) Act 1969**

This act ensures that all employers take out and maintain approved insurance policies with authorised insurance bodies for bodily injury or disease sustained by their employees during their employment. Insurers must issue a certificate of insurance to employers who are required to display the certificate (or a copy) at each place of the business.