



**December 2011**

## **Adding new procedures to your business?**

During routine inspections Environmental Health Officers have noticed a number of premises have added procedures to their business that they are not legally registered to practice e.g. a hairdresser adding a waxing room or a nail area and beauticians adding electrolysis or cosmetic tattooing to their procedures.

Before adding new procedures to your business, some issues that you need to consider are:

- Are you currently registered to carry out that procedure?  
Under Bayside City Council's registration categories, businesses can be categorised as Hairdressing, Beauty Therapy, Skin Penetration, Ear Piercing, Electrolysis or a mixture of 2 or more. Adding a new procedure may require your current registration category to be amended.
- Do you have the structural facilities to allow a new procedure?  
Under the current "Health guidelines for personal care and body art industries" a hand wash basin with warm running water through a single outlet, liquid soap and disposable paper towel is required to be installed in the immediate procedure area. If you're adding a skin penetration procedure, the hand wash basin is required to be hands free (e.g. electronically controlled) in operation.

For any premises where alterations to the layout or treatments/procedures are added; you should submit updated floor plans of your premises indicating which treatments or procedures occur in each room to Council's Environmental Health Services for approval prior to works or renovations.

## **Registration reminder for 2012**

You are reminded that your registration is due by **31 December 2011**.

Failure to pay your registration by this date can affect your business in two ways:

- you may be liable for a **50 per cent** late fee, and
- you may be committing an offence by trading whilst unregistered.

A proprietor operating an unregistered Public Health and Wellbeing Act premises can now be issued with an infringement notice of up to \$1400 per offence.

Should you misplace or lose your registration renewal form please contact Bayside's Environmental Health Unit on 9599 4417.

## Some health effects from exposure to hazardous substances

Workers in the hairdressing nail and beauty industry may be exposed to a wide range of products containing hazardous substances, including:

- Hair dyes
- Bleaches
- Permanent wave solutions
- Shampoos
- Hair styling agents
- Nail and skin care products
- Straighteners
- Brow and lash tints
- Chemical peels
- Peroxides
- Wax solvents
- Disinfectants and cleaning products

### Dermatitis

Dermatitis is a general term meaning inflammation of the skin. There are two types of dermatitis:

- Irritant contact dermatitis results from contact with irritant substances, such as water and detergents in shampoo.
- Allergic contact dermatitis occurs when a person develops an allergic response to a chemical.

### Asthma

Chemicals used in the hairdressing, nail and beauty industry may aggravate pre-existing asthma or cause occupational asthma.

Hazardous substances can enter the body through the skin, by inhalation or by swallowing. Acute health effects, such as eye and throat irritation, may occur almost immediately. Chronic health effects, such as allergic contact dermatitis, take some time to develop.

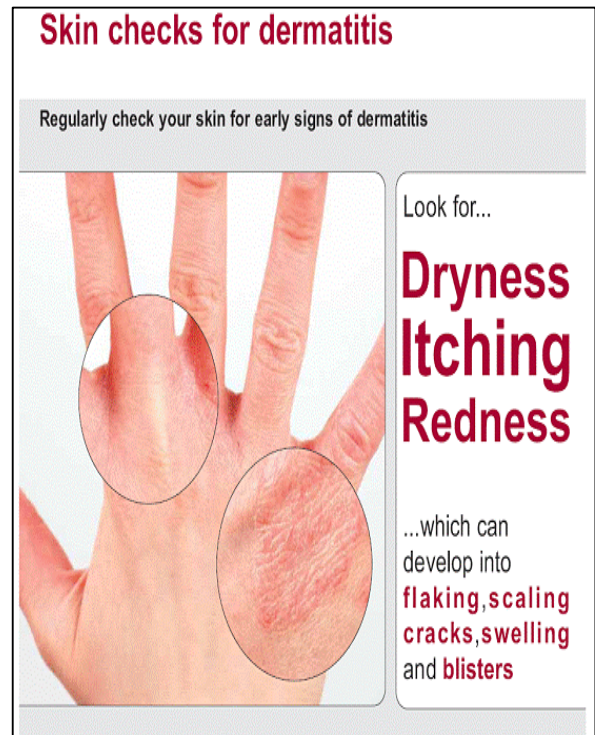
### Hair straightening a health hazard

Late 2007, stylists in the US state of Oregon complained of eye irritation, nosebleeds and breathing issues after repeatedly applying Brazilian Blowout, a liquid keratin straightening treatment.

Oregon's Occupational Safety and Health Administration tested 105 samples of various hair-smoothing products and found unsafe amounts of formaldehyde in all but three brands of them. The presence of formaldehyde is significant, says Arthur Grollman, a science professor at Stony Brook University School of Medicine.

Formaldehyde is a substance that is classified as a known human carcinogen by the International Agency for Research on Cancer, part of the World Health Organization. In other words, it can cause cancer.

**Note: Brazilian Blowout was recalled in Australia on December 3, 2010.**



#### Let us know what you think

If you have any comments about the Health newsletter, have any questions you would like answered, topics you would like covered in future issues, or perhaps suggest some tips to share with other businesses, why not contact us:

Bayside City Council

Environmental Health Unit

Phone: 9599 4417