

Part 3: Piercing of the skin

Minimum standards 3D: Acupuncture

All operators who pierce the skin must comply with the previous section (minimum standards for all operators who pierce the skin), and also any of the relevant sections from 3A to 3E.

Single-use disposable needles

- You must only use single-use, disposable needles.
- When removing the needle from the packaging, don't touch the point.

Additional recommended best practice – recommended but not compulsory

Acupuncture

Insert needles swiftly using the correct needle technique. Wash your hands and use alcohol gel before checking needles with your bare hands. Do not put needles in open wounds.

Moxibustion

- You should get written customer consent before performing moxibustion. Before starting moxibustion directly on the skin, you should moisten the skin with a swab and clean water.
- Do not leave customers unattended at any stage during the procedure. Care should be taken when performing moxibustion directly on the face or other sensitive areas.
- You should have a window that can be opened, or an extraction fan or air conditioner available to clear any smoke when performing moxibustion.

Cupping

- You should get written customer consent before performing cupping. Tell the customer about the possibility of bruising.
- Explain the cupping procedure to a customer before starting. Ask them to let you know if the procedure becomes too uncomfortable.
- Make sure you do not overheat the cups before placing them on the body.
- Sterilise all cups after use.

NOTE: This summary sheet is provided only for information and does not replace or supplement the Hutt City Council Bylaw Code of Practice.