Central Zone Guidelines for Hair Salons During an Outbreak

If a hair salon in a facility that has an ongoing gastrointestinal or respiratory illness outbreak wishes to remain open, the following procedures must be followed in addition to the requirements of the Alberta Personal Services Regulation and guidelines.

Please note: Public Health may direct the salon to be closed if the outbreak is not under control or may implement additional measures as needed.

1. There is to be no more than 2 clients in the salon at one time.
2. Clients should be at least 2 meters from each other during the services.
3. During confirmed influenza outbreaks, salon staff must be asymptomatic and either have received the current year’s influenza vaccine or are taking prophylactic antivirals for influenza.
4. During gastrointestinal outbreaks, salon staff are to confirm with facility staff that are responsible for the care of the client/management of the outbreak (e.g., health care aide, nurse, charge nurse, etc.) that the client has not had symptoms of a GI illness in the last 48 hours. If they have, their appointment must be rescheduled.
5. Salon staff and clients should perform hand hygiene frequently such as upon leaving the unit, before the service and after the service.
6. All books and magazines are to be removed from the salon until the outbreak is declared over.
7. Capes are to be laundered or cleaned and disinfected using a recommended disinfectant between clients.
8. Items that come into contact with the client such as the combs, scissors, hair washing sinks, styling chairs, hairdryer chair, etc. should be cleaned and disinfected using a recommended disinfectant between clients.
9. The following disinfectant categories/concentrations are recommended for disinfecting surfaces during outbreaks:
   a. Hypochlorite at a concentration of 1000 parts-per-million. If diluting household bleach (5.25% sodium hypochlorite), use fresh bleach and add 5 tablespoons bleach to 4 litres of water to achieve this concentration. A fresh solution must be prepared daily. If using other commercial hypochlorite containing solutions, follow manufacturer’s direction for preparation.
      NOTE: Surfaces must first be cleaned with an appropriate cleaning product before disinfection with a hypochlorite product (2-step process). If the hypochlorite product claims it is a detergent/disinfectant, it may be used for both steps.
   b. A disinfectant with a Drug Identification Number (DIN) issued by Health Canada with a specific label claim against norovirus, feline calcivirus, or murine norovirus. An example of a product with this label claim currently in wide use is 0.5% accelerated hydrogen peroxide. There are other products with this label claim.