

Cartridge Needle System Guidance

Cartridge Needles without Backflow Prevention

Cartridge needles systems with no backflow preventer (also known as a membrane or barrier), are not guaranteed to prevent the contamination of blood and body fluids inside the grip sleeve or the drive bar, which may contaminate the needle in future uses.

Sterilization

The grip sleeve and drive bar will be required to be sterile prior to use for any needle cartridge system with no manufacturer instructions indicating the cartridge has a backflow preventer.

- For artists using a cartridge system with a backflow preventer and non-disposable grip: Re-usable grips must be cleaned with soap and water before being sterilized in an autoclave after each client.

Autoclave Requirements

If an autoclave is not accessible or the manufacturer instruction prohibit this, then the cartridge system must have manufacturer proof of having a backflow preventer and the grip and machine cleaned and disinfected in the following manner between uses.

- The grip and machine must be covered completely with disposable plastic cover
- The plastic cover must be securely attached to the unit with tape
- The plastic cover and tape must be discarded between clients
- The re-usable grip and machine must be cleaned and then disinfected with a BCPH approved disinfectant*

Disposable Grips

For artists using a needle cartridge system with a disposable grip

- The body of the machine must be completely covered with a disposable plastic cover
- The disposable plastic cover must be securely attached to the machine body with tape
- The plastic cover and tape must be discarded between clients
- Disposable grips must be discarded

Reusing Drive Bars

For cartridge systems with no proof of backflow preventers, the drive bars will be considered single-use and must be discarded between clients.

- Drive bars that can be re-used are only permitted with the use of cartridge systems that have manufacturer proof of having a backflow preventer. For cartridge systems with backflow preventers, the drive bar must be cleaned and then disinfected with BCPH approved disinfectant* after each use.

*DISINFECTANT means an EPA-registered environmental disinfectant proven to be effective against HBV and HIV, or a 1:100 dilution of normal strength household bleach (5.25% sodium hypochlorite) and water made fresh daily and dispensed from a spray bottle.