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Board of Cosmetology

Position Statement: Storage Boxes

- Athletic Trainers
- Barbers
- Body Piercing Technicians
- Denturists
- Direct Entry Midwives
- Electrologists
- Environmental Health Specialists
- Estheticians
- Hair Designers
- Hearing Aid Specialists
- Nail Technicians
- Permanent Color Technicians
- Respiratory Therapists
- Sex Offender Therapists
- Tattoo Artists
- Waste Water Specialists

Storage Boxes Not Approved for Tool Disinfection

Some manufacturers are claiming that storage boxes with a "hospital grade germicidal bulb" are able to "sanitize and disinfect." Don't believe them.

These storage boxes cannot replace the proper and required method for cleaning and disinfecting reusable tools as specified in Oregon Administrative Rules (OAR) **817-010-0065(2)**: *Only disinfecting agents that meet the criteria set forth in OAR 817-010-0005(34) and (39) are approved for use.*

OAR 817-010-0005(34): "High-level disinfectant" means a chemical agent, which has demonstrated tuberculocidal activity and is registered with the EPA.

OAR 817-010-0005(39): "Low-level disinfectant" means a chemical agent which has demonstrated bactericidal, germicidal, fungicidal, and limited virucidal activity and is registered with EPA.

Storage boxes should not be confused with dry heat sterilizers or autoclaves, which if registered with the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) are approved for sterilization in lieu of disinfection.

The Oregon Health Licensing Agency (OHLA) and Board of Cosmetology recommend practitioners and facility owners review state regulations to make more informed decisions regarding manufacturer claims and investment in unproven or untested technologies.

Regular review of state requirements for health, safety and infection control will assist practitioners and facility owners to stay in compliance with state requirements, prevent potential adverse health outcomes on the public, and avoid investment in devices or equipment that are prohibited and possibly ineffective.

OHLA and the Board of Cosmetology adopted this position statement on November 3, 2008.

Board of Athletic Trainers

Board of Cosmetology

Board of Direct Entry Midwifery

Board of Denture Technology

Environmental Health Registration Board

Respiratory Therapist Licensing Board

Sex Offender Treatment Board

Advisory Council on Hearing Aids

Advisory Council for Electrologists, Permanent Color Technicians & Tattoo Artists