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Board of Cosmetology

Position Statement: Threading

- 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

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

“Threading” to Temporarily Remove Hair Allowed

“Threading,” a method to temporarily remove hair practiced in other countries and gaining popularity in the United States, may be provided by certified estheticians in Oregon and is within their scope of practice.

Oregon Revised Statutes (ORS) 690.005(6) states that esthetics means “...any of the following skin care practices performed on the human body for the purpose of keeping the skin healthy and attractive and not for medical diagnosis or treatment of disease or physical or mental ailments:

(b) Temporary removal of hair.”

Threading removes the entire hair follicle and lasts up to six weeks, based on information gathered by the Oregon Health Licensing Agency (OHLA), Regulatory Operations Division.

Threading works by pulling a cotton thread along unwanted hair in a twisting motion to trap hair in a “mini lasso,” lifting hair out of the hair follicle.

Practitioners are required to follow the same health, safety and infection control requirements with threading services as with all regulated services provided by estheticians within their scope of practice.

As a result, the cotton thread used on one client must be disposed of after use on the client and is prohibited for reuse on other clients.

Practitioners are advised to gain proficiency in threading prior to providing the service, just as with any service provided.

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