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## Board of Cosmetology

Position Statement: Vacuum Massage

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

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

Advisory Council on  
Hearing Aids

Advisory Council for  
Electrologists,  
Permanent Color  
Technicians & Tattoo  
Artists

## Vacuum Massage within Esthetics Scope of Practice if Provided Specifically for Skin Care Services

The Board of Cosmetology has adopted the following position statement to clarify its position on the regulation of vacuum massage:

Vacuum massage is compatible with the statutory definition of esthetics under Oregon Revised Statutes 690.005(7) effective January 1, 2006 (bold for emphasis): “...*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: (a) The use of the hands or mechanical or electrical apparatuses or appliances for cleansing, stimulating, manipulating, exfoliating or applying lotions or creams....*”

Vacuum massage uses a machine that rolls, pulls, suctions and massages parts of the body in the attempt to reduce *the appearance* of cellulite, i.e. the dimpled skin condition often associated with cellulite. If vacuum massage is used for this purpose – which is to make the skin more attractive by reducing *the appearance* of cellulite – it is within the esthetics scope of practice.

The board and the Oregon Health Licensing Agency (OHLA) concur that other uses for such systems – such as for weight loss – are neither within the esthetics scope nor under their regulatory authority.

For use by estheticians, vacuum massage systems must be classified by the U.S. Food & Drug Administration (FDA) as Class I or Class II and as intended for use within their scope of practice. Systems classified as Class III must be used only under the supervision of a physician.

As with any advanced procedure, evidence of training in the safe and effective use of vacuum massage systems must be provided upon request from the Oregon Health Licensing Agency. Training by the device manufacturer is acceptable as long as it is documented as specified in Oregon Administrative Rules 817-015-0050 (4).

*The Board of Cosmetology adopted this position statement on November 6, 2006.*