

More on Safety

We encourage practitioners to review these brochures to keep current on other state regulatory requirements:

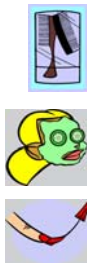
- **Client Records: Required**
- **Foot Spa Safety**
- **Stay Away from MMA**

Find brochures at www.oregon.gov/OHLA/COS or contact us at (503) 378-8667 or ohla.info@state.or.us to order copies.

The **Oregon Health Licensing Agency (OHLA)** is a state consumer protection agency. OHLA provides centralized regulatory oversight for multiple volunteer citizen boards, advisory councils and licensing programs of health and related professions.

We help protect Oregon consumers by setting, communicating and enforcing uniform regulatory standards.

The **Board of Cosmetology** consists of six licensed practitioners and one public member. OHLA boards and councils help to set educational and professional scope of practice standards but are not responsible for OHLA central agency administration.



Find it online

- Renew your license
- Update your address
- Download forms, publications
- And more!

www.oregon.gov/OHLA



OREGON HEALTH
LICENSING AGENCY

700 Summer Street NE, Suite 320
Salem, Oregon 97301-1287

📞 503-378-8667

FAX 503-370-9004

✉ ohla.info@state.or.us

Turn to **Oregon Regulatory News** in *Northwest Stylist & Salon* every month for the latest news from the Board of Cosmetology and the Oregon Health Licensing Agency (OHLA). *Northwest Stylist* is distributed free to cosmetology facilities, independent contractors and cosmetology schools statewide.



OHLA_COS_HD_Hair_Lice_07_09

Board of Cosmetology



HEAD LICE

**Hair Designers, Barbers
May Treat Condition**



OREGON
HEALTH
LICENSING
AGENCY

HAIR DESIGN / BARBERING

In Oregon, certified hair designers and barbers are allowed to treat head lice. This brochure discusses the issues, treatment options and infection control practices practitioners must follow when treating head lice.

What are head lice?

Head lice are small parasitic insects adapted to living on the scalp and neck hairs of humans. Head lice affect all socio-economic classes; their presence does not indicate a lack of hygiene or sanitation practiced by their host.

Head lice are mainly acquired by direct head-to-head contact with an infested person's hair, but may occasionally be transferred with shared combs, hats and other hair accessories. They may also live on bedding or upholstered furniture for a brief period. Neither able to fly nor jump, lice are unlikely to wander far from their preferred habitat.

Generally, an infested person has fewer than a dozen active lice on the scalp at any time, but may have hundreds of viable, dead and hatched eggs.

Treatment

Treatment should be considered only when active lice or viable eggs ("nits") are observed. Itching of the scalp or the perception that something is crawling on the head **do not** warrant treatment for lice with insecticides.

Treatment includes but is not limited to the following:

- **Pyrethroid insecticides.** Infestations may be treated with shampoos containing permethrin or pyrethrins specifically labeled for use on people. Read and follow the label directions. These products seem to have limited ovicidal activity (egg-killing). A second treatment is often needed 10 days later to target lice that hatch after the initial treatment. Lice do not fall from the hair or die immediately upon treatment.
- **Mechanical removal** of lice and nits
- **Non-pyrethroid insecticides.** Other insecticides should be avoided unless specifically prescribed by a physician.

Practitioner Tips

Employers or independent contractors may determine if head lice may be treated. If head lice are treated, the following tips are provided by the Centers for Disease Control, Division of Parasitic Diseases:

- Before applying treatment, the infected person should remove all clothing from the waist up.
- Apply lice medicine according to label instructions.
- Do not use crème rinse or combination shampoo/conditioner before using lice medicine.
- Have infested person put on clean clothing after treatment.
- A nit comb should be used to remove nits and lice from the hair shaft.
- To kill lice and nits, machine wash all clothing and capes that the infested person touched in hot water.
- Disinfect all combs, brushes and all equipment used.
- Vacuum the floor and furniture and dispose of hair promptly.

For more information, visit:

Harvard School of Public Health www.hsph.harvard.edu/headlice

Centers for Disease Control www.cdc.gov/lice/