



Renfrew County and District Health Unit  
"Optimal Health for All in Renfrew County and District"

## For Immediate Release

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(Pembroke, Ontario, December 5, 2019)

### **Be Smart When It Comes to Choosing Where You Get A Tattoo or Body Piercing**

Tattoo or body piercing can cause infections. If you want to decrease the risk of an infection, make sure the facility is inspected by Renfrew County and District Health Unit (RCDHU). RCDHU performs inspections to reduce the risk of getting a blood or skin infection from these procedures. Tattoo or body piercing facility inspections can be checked by visiting RCDHU's inspection disclosure website at <https://www.rcdhu.com/inspection-disclosure/>. Remember business not listed on the disclosure website can put you at greater risk.

What to look for when choosing a tattoo or piercing service:

- Workstations should be clean, well-lit and organized.
- Tools and equipment should be in good condition, clean and kept covered until ready for use.
- All pre-packaged, pre-sterilized equipment must be opened at time of service in front of the client.
- All reusable items (needle bars, forceps) must be cleaned and disinfected after each client.
- The service provider should wash their hands before starting a service.
- The service provider should use gloves during tattooing and piercing services.
- **Refuse any service if you feel the service is unsanitary.**

Seek medical attention immediately if you develop a rash, an infection or are feeling unwell after getting a tattoo or piercing.

A complaint can be made if:

- The business is not following infection prevention practices.
- An infection is developed after receiving a service.
- A tattoo or piercing business is not listed on RCDHU's inspection disclosure website.

Call 613-735-8654, extension 555 or email [environmentalhealth@rcdhu.com](mailto:environmentalhealth@rcdhu.com) to make a complaint.

For more information:

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