

Public Health encourages you to check personal services inspection results online

It's evident by the growing number of nail salons and spas that personal services settings are increasing in popularity. Public Health inspects these establishments to ensure that they follow strict hygienic procedures to prevent the spread of infectious diseases. Today, Public Health is making it easier for the public to access the results of these inspections. The Check Before You Choose website that already posts the inspection results of restaurants has added the inspection results of 375 personal services settings. The website (www.CheckBeforeYouChoose.ca) posts the inspection results of businesses that provide a variety of personal services including spa treatments, hairdressing and barbering, body and ear piercing, manicures and pedicures, and hair removal. "It's important that the public has the opportunity to make an informed decision about where to go for personal services that have the potential to affect their health and well-being," said Dr. Nicola Mercer, Medical Officer of Health and CEO of Wellington-Dufferin-Guelph Public Health.

Public Health is mandated by the Ministry of Health and Long-Term Care to inspect personal service settings to prevent infections and reduce the transmission of blood-borne illnesses like hepatitis B, hepatitis C and HIV.

On the Check Before You Choose website inspection infractions are categorized as critical or non-critical based on their potential to cause infections and blood-borne illnesses.

"Anyone who has a health concern about a service they received in the community should contact Public Health and we will investigate and follow up accordingly," said Dr. Mercer.