

TIP No. 98-118-0620

RECOMMENDED BARBER AND BEAUTY SHOP PRACTICES DURING COVID-19

PURPOSE

The following guidance is provided for opening and operating barber and beauty shops that were closed due to COVID-19.

PREPARATION FOR OPENING BARBER AND BEAUTY SHOPS

- Facilities linked to an employee or patron who tested positive for COVID-19. Follow the cleaning and disinfection guidance provided in U.S. Army Public Health Center (APHC) TIP No. 98-105-0420, *Cleaning and Disinfecting Buildings and Areas Previously Occupied by Coronavirus 2019 (COVID-19) Personnel*, available at: https://phc.amedd.army.mil/PHC%20Resource%20Library/TIP_No_98-105-0420_CleaningandDisinfectingAreasOccupiedbyCOVID-19Personnel.pdf.
- Facilities that were closed for 72 hours or longer with no link to a coronavirus-infected person. Special or “deep” cleaning and disinfection of the facility is not required prior to opening. Prior to opening, conduct general cleaning and disinfection of the physical facility and barbering/beauty implements and equipment as specified in Technical Bulletin, Bulletin (TB MED) 531, *Facility Sanitation Controls and Inspections*, Chapter 2. This TB MED can be downloaded from the Army Publishing Directorate Website at: https://armypubs.army.mil/epubs/DR_pubs/DR_a/pdf/web/ARN16903_tbmed531_FINAL.pdf
- Facility managers should screen their employees for COVID-19 symptoms (e.g., fever, cough, shortness of breath) or possible exposure within the past 14 days to a person with presumptive or positive COVID-19 illness. Exclude sick or potentially exposed employees from work for 14 days or when medically cleared.
- Prepare facility utilities that have been inactive for 30 days or longer:
 - Flush all water faucets according to guidance provided in APHC TIP No. 98-114-0420, *Returning Building Water Systems to Service*, available at: https://phc.amedd.army.mil/PHC%20Resource%20Library/TIP_No_98-114-0420_ReturningWaterSystemstoService.pdf.
 - Inspect the heating, ventilation, and air-conditioning (HVAC) system for mold and, where possible, adjust the system to provide increased ventilation and outdoor air supply according to the guidance provided in APHC TIP No. 98-113-0420, *Measures to Modify Building HVAC for Occupational Health and Comfort During the COVID-19 Pandemic*, available at: https://phc.amedd.army.mil/PHC%20Resource%20Library/TIP_No_98-113-0420_MeasurestoModifyBldgHVACforHealthandComfort.pdf.

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BARBER AND BEAUTY SHOPS

At **Health Protection Condition (HPCON) Charlie and Delta**, there is a significant risk for person-to-person spread of the coronavirus, therefore—

- Barber and beauty operations should be limited to providing only the essential services that allow Service members to maintain military grooming standards—
 - Washing and cutting hair,
 - Providing basic fingernail and cuticle care.
- The use of hair dryers is not recommended.

At **HPCON Bravo**, facilities may consider providing the full range of services available at the facility.

BARBER AND BEAUTY SERVICES OPERATIONAL CONTROLS

Installations operating at HPCON Charlie or Delta should enforce social distancing, hand hygiene, and wearing face masks or cloth face coverings. The Public Health Emergency Officer should evaluate the local situation and advise the Commander to adjust this guidance as appropriate.

- Maintain 6 feet between patrons in wait areas.
- Maximize the distance between employee work stations (barber chairs, hair sinks, and nail stations). Depending on the size of the facility, consider servicing one patron at a time inside the shop or maintain one empty (unused) work station between patrons that are serviced at the same time.
- Require all employees to conduct daily health self-checks (temperature and self-screen for symptoms: cough; shortness of breath or difficulty breathing; fever; chills; muscle pain; sore throat; and/or new loss of taste or smell.)
 - If you have any positive symptoms you **MUST** stay home and follow self-isolation guidelines.
 - If you begin to exhibit any symptoms while at the office you **MUST** go home and follow self-isolation guidelines.
- Require employees to wear a face mask or cloth face covering at all times.
- Exclude any patrons who are symptomatic (coughing, appear ill).
- Post signage informing patrons that face coverings are required, and that anyone with symptoms consistent with COVID-19 (cough; shortness of breath or difficulty breathing; fever; chills; muscle pain; sore throat; and/or new loss of taste or smell) should not enter facility.
- Require patrons to wear a face mask or cloth face covering when they enter the facility. When wearing a face mask is not practical during some services, require the patron to hold a clean cloth towel over their mouth and nose until the service has been completed.

- Require employees to wash their hands upon entering the facility and after each patron. Wearing disposable gloves is optional and does not preclude handwashing between patrons. Disposable gloves must only be worn for a single patron and then discarded.
- Provide hand sanitizer containing a minimum of 60% ethyl alcohol at the entrance to the facility, and require all patrons to sanitize their hands upon entering and exiting the facility.
- Ensure adequate ventilation is provided throughout the facility. For HVAC control measures during pandemic operations, see TIP 98-113-0420 Measures to Modify Building HVAC for Health and Comfort during the COVID-19 Pandemic for additional guidance.
- Before providing any services, examine patrons to ensure there are no signs of illness or sores on the scalp or back of the neck. Do not treat a patron, and refer them for immediate medical treatment if—
 - They have a fever or show signs of an upper respiratory infection such as heavy/frequent coughing.
 - There is evidence of skin disease, sores, other scalp irritation, or insect infestation such as head lice.
- Perform standard cleaning and disinfection of all barbering/beauty tools and linen laundering according to TB MED 531.
- Conduct frequent cleaning and disinfection of all patron and employee high-touch, nonporous surfaces (in contact with skin) such as barber chairs, door handles, hair sink fixtures, counters, and credit card swipe machines. Refer to the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA)-registered disinfectants on List N: Disinfectants for Use Against SARS-CoV-2, available at: <https://www.epa.gov/pesticide-registration/selected-epa-registered-disinfectants>; use products according to the manufacturer's label instruction. Chlorine bleach disinfecting solutions prepared on premises should have a minimum concentration of 1000 parts per million (ppm) free available chlorine. Allow a 1-minute wet contact time for chlorine bleach disinfection, and then rinse the treated surface with clear water to remove any remaining residual.
- Use a freshly laundered haircloth (hair cape) between each patron, or sanitize haircloths/capes after each use. Haircloths/capes may only be sanitized and reused if they do not come into direct contact with the patron's skin (neck) and are not otherwise soiled as stated in TB MED 531, paragraph 2-7b(2). Use an EPA-registered product appropriate for application on fabrics. Haircloths/capes must be allowed to air dry before being used on another patron. Used haircloths/capes must be laundered daily.

Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), *Cleaning and Disinfection for Community Facilities*, available at: <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/community/organizations/cleaning-disinfection.html>.

AD-HOC BARBER SERVICES

Ad-hoc barber services, provided by persons who do not possess a valid barbering or cosmetology license, for example, "barracks barbers," are expected to follow the sanitary

guidelines presented in this paper and must limit their services to hair cutting. [NOTE: Ad-hoc barber or beauty services are not authorized to operate as a business on an Army installation or joint installations where Army serves as the public health authority. Unit leaders must ensure sanitary controls are in place if Service members are providing hair cutting services in the barracks. Unit leaders are encouraged to supply a field barber kit (NSN 3590-00-058-1837) to individuals who are providing barbering services to unit personnel.

The command surgeon or designated representative—

- Determines the actual local guidance to be followed, including the use of any guidance below.
- Should evaluate the local situation and adjust this guidance when appropriate.
- May, based on the situation, require that barbers/beauticians report the names and contact information of patrons who are refused service due to respiratory symptoms, skin diseases or insect infestation. They patrons should be referred to the MTF for evaluation.

BASIC HYGIENE 101

Individuals providing barber services must not work when ill with communicable disease or other conditions that might be transferred. Personal cleanliness and wearing clean clothing are also essential factors for preventing disease transmission. Hand washing for at least 20 seconds using soap and running water must be conducted after—

- Each patron,
- Handling trash,
- Performing custodial duties, such as cleaning/disinfecting instruments or sweeping the floor,
- Eating or drinking, and
- Smoking.

To minimize recontamination of hands during and after washing, individuals are encouraged to use a clean paper towel to turn faucets on or off and to open or unlock doors when leaving a restroom.

SANITARY ENVIRONMENT AND PRACTICES

The following practices are prohibited for all barber and beauty operations, including ad-hoc services performed in the barracks—

- Shaving with a straight razor,
- Removing ingrown hairs,
- Squeezing pimples or blackheads, and
- Using a septic pencil to stop bleeding.

REQUIRED OPERATIONAL CONTROLS

- Adequate light and ventilation in areas where hair cutting is performed.
- Frequent removal of cut hair from the floor; preferably after each patron.
- Sweep and then wet mop the floor daily; use commercial floor cleaning products.
- Use closed sanitary receptacles for waste materials/soiled linens.
- Use freshly laundered towels for each patron. Change reusable haircloths (capas) whenever they are soiled or at least daily.
- Only use synthetic hairbrushes (no natural fibers) that allow adequate cleaning and sanitizing between patrons.
- Electrical equipment must be connected to a properly grounded circuit or will be battery-operated.
- Before providing any hair services, examine patrons to ensure there are no signs of illness or sores on the scalp or back of the neck. Do not treat a patron; refer them for immediate medical treatment if—
 - They have a fever or show signs of an upper respiratory infection such as heavy/frequent coughing.
 - There is evidence of skin disease, sores, or other scalp irritation, or insect infestation such as head lice.

CLEANING AND DISINFECTION

All instruments must be cleaned and disinfected after use on each patron and at the end of each day.

- Scissors, combs, brushes, and all other nonelectric tools must be thoroughly washed with soap and hot water to remove all film, oil, and debris, and then dried with a clean towel or clean disposable tissue. Completely submerge cleaned instruments in a disinfecting solution for the amount of time specified in the table below. After the appropriate disinfecting time has been achieved, rinse the instruments with clean drinking water, and allow them to air dry.
- For electric hair clippers, remove any attachments (combs/guards), and then brush or wipe the hair and debris from the clipper surfaces. Use a disposable paper towel or a stiff bristle brush designated only for this purpose. Disinfect the clipper head as specified in the table below.
- Store cleaned and disinfected instruments in a clean covered container or drawer.

Disinfectants used for hair cutting should be specifically formulated for barbering tools (for example, Barbicide®) and carry a label registered by the U.S. Department of Agriculture or EPA. Commercial products that are not specifically formulated for barbering operations must bear an EPA-registration number on the label to indicate it has disinfecting properties.

- Foreign brand disinfecting products should be reviewed and approved by preventive medicine personnel prior to use to determine if they are appropriate.

- Disinfectants should always be used according to the label instructions regarding dilution, appropriate surfaces for application, disinfecting time (dwell time, wet contact), and rinsing to remove residuals.
- Disinfection solutions should be prepared fresh daily and changed periodically during the day if they become cloudy or visibly soiled with debris, and when the volume for immersing instruments becomes too low due to frequent use.

Antimicrobial Agents	Application	Guidance and Procedures
Chlorine bleach ^{a,b} : 200 ppm	Combs, brushes, scissors, other metal/plastic implements	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Prepare fresh bleach solution each day: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Mix 1 tablespoon of household bleach that is 5 to 6% strength with 1 gallon of drinking water; or ➤ Mix 2 teaspoons of household bleach that is 8.25% strength with 1 gallon of drinking water. 2. Disinfect for 10 minutes (wet contact) by completely immersing items. 3. Rinse items after disinfecting.
Chlorine bleach ^{a,b,c} : 1000 ppm	Sinks, toilets, high-touch surfaces	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Prepare fresh bleach solution each day: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Mix 1/3 cup of household bleach that is 5 to 6% strength with 1 gallon of drinking water; or ➤ Mix 3 tablespoons of household bleach that is 8.25% strength with 1 gallon of drinking water. 2. Disinfect for 1 minute (wet contact) by spraying or swabbing the surface. 3. Rinse/wipe the surface with clear water after disinfecting.
Alcohol: Ethanol or Isopropyl at 70% strength or higher	Scissors, manicure tools	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Do not dilute the alcohol. 2. Disinfect by complete immersion in the alcohol for 10 minutes. 3. Air dry instruments after disinfecting.
	Electric clipper heads	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Do not dilute the alcohol. 2. Remove detachable comb or guard from the clipper head, and disinfect by immersion in the alcohol as stated above. 3. Disinfect by spraying or swabbing (with a clean cotton swab or paper towel) a generous amount of alcohol to thoroughly wet both sides of the clipper head. <i>Discard cotton swab or paper towel after a one-time use.</i> 4. Allow the clipper head to air dry after disinfecting.
<p>^a Chlorine bleach will corrode metal when prepared at high concentration and not rinsed after the appropriate disinfecting contact time is achieved.</p> <p>^b Verify chlorine dilutions each time a fresh batch is prepared. See TB MED 531, Appendix B, for test strip resources. (https://armypubs.army.mil/epubs/DR_pubs/DR_a/pdf/web/ARN16903_tbmed531_FINAL.pdf)</p> <p>^c A 1000-ppm chlorine dilution is required for COVID-19 surface disinfection.</p>		