

# **AREA 51**

## **Cleaning Instructions for Microdermal and Skin Diver Piercings**

Do **NOT** touch, move, twist or knock your piercing in any way, even whilst cleaning.

**The more this is done, the longer it will take to heal.**

- o Keep the initial dressing on the piercing for a couple of hours. This helps to keep pressure on the area.
- o Keep the piercing covered with a water-resistant dressing when showering. Do this for at least 6 weeks and try to keep the piercing as dry as possible.
- o Wash your hands thoroughly prior to cleaning or touching your piercing for any reason.
- o Spray saline solution onto clean cotton wool/pad (do not use cotton buds). Hold over piercing for 2 minutes, repeat twice a day or whenever piercing area is exposed to other products.

### **What is Normal?**

- o Initially: some bleeding, localized swelling, tenderness, or bruising.
- o During healing: some discoloration, itching, secretion of a yellow/clear fluid (not pus) that will form some crust on the jewellery. The tissue may tighten around the jewellery as it heals.
- o Once healed if you fail to include cleaning your piercing as part of your daily hygiene routine, normal but smelly bodily secretions may accumulate.
- o A piercing may seem healed before the healing process is complete. This is because tissue heals from the outside in, and although it feels fine, the interior remains fragile. Be patient, and keep cleaning throughout the entire healing period.
- o Even healed piercings can shrink or close in minutes after having been there for years! This varies from person to person; if you like your piercing, keep jewellery in - do not leave it empty.

### **Most Common Problems**

o **Red rash around the piercing site:** Usually this is caused by an allergic reaction to creams, plasters or dressings that have been used. The body jewellery we pierce with is **ALWAYS** surgical grade titanium which is a type of pure metal known for its use in surgeries. This will not react to your body. We do also sell surgical steel and sterling silver body jewellery in the studio – but we will never pierce with this as a rule.

**For more details or any concerns, in the first instance please contact Sarah or Ollie in the studio or via these contact methods:**

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