

Press Release

Australasian College of Aesthetic Medicine*

Nurse Deregistered for Unsupervised Botox injections

A recent tribunal decision has cancelled the registration of a Sydney cosmetic medicine nurse, Ms Rose Piper, stressing the need to deter others from overstepping the bounds in injecting patients with restricted drugs such as Botox without adequate supervision. Ms Piper supplied and administered the drugs to clients at a day spa in Collaroy.

Ms Piper acted without the direct supervision of a medical practitioner and without authorised prescriptions. She breached a 2005 protocol governing the use of S4 (Schedule 4 – Prescription Only) drugs for cosmetic procedures by nurses.

Ms Piper was found guilty of professional misconduct and had her registration cancelled for three months and was ordered to pay costs.

The administration of Botox and dermal fillers is a medical procedure that must be medically supervised.

Tips for Consumers Considering Cosmetic Injections

- All cosmetic injectables are S4 drugs, which means they can only be supplied by a doctor following a consultation and can only be used by a nurse under supervision.
- Know what you are being injected with. Make sure the provider is using only an FDA-approved product purchased within Australia. If he or she refuses to give you this information, look for another cosmetic practice.
- Make sure the benefits and risks are fully explained to you in a personal consultation with a doctor.
- The legal processes. A doctor needs to see you face-to-face. Skyping and on-line consultations are not appropriate.
- Fully disclose any medical conditions you might have and medications you are taking, including vitamins and over-the-counter drugs.
- Cosmetic injections should be administered in an appropriate setting using sterile instruments. A nurse, who is appropriately licensed and trained, may perform the injections under the supervision of a qualified doctor. Hair dressing salons, beauty parlours and private homes are not medical environments and may be unsanitary.
- The cheapest price does not mean the best results. Be aware that discounts and inducements for medical procedures are illegal in Australia

For further information visit: www.aestheticmedicine.org.au or call Dr Sharron Phillipson (Past President and Chief Censor of ACAM) on 61 2 99292566.

* The Australasian College of Aesthetic Medicine (ACAM) is a fellowship of medical practitioners trained to high professional standards in aesthetic medicine, whose objective is to serve the community by providing high quality care. The overall objective of our training program is to produce medical practitioners who are safe, skilled and competent in the management of all aspects of aesthetic medicine.