**Body Art: Know the Risks**

It is vital the artist understands the risks and follows proper procedures.

- **WHO** is performing your body art procedure and do they have displayed certification?
- **WHAT** does the artist wear on their hands?
- **WHERE** does the ink/jewelry come from and what is it made of?
- **WHEN** was the artist’s last Bloodborne Pathogen Training? (annual)
- **WHY** are you receiving this procedure?
- **HOW** do you properly care for your new body art?

**Irreversible changes to the human body**

Tattoos, and other forms of body art, are permanent. Removal is difficult, expensive, and sometimes only partially effective.

Talk to your doctor about potential risks and your concerns at any time in the body art procedure process.

**Swelling, bruising, bleeding, discomfort and pain**

Body art procedures may puncture the skin in some way. There is a risk of skin infections and other complications. These risks apply equally to cosmetic tattooing procedures.

**Allergic reactions**

Tattoo ink can cause allergic reactions, immediately or years after getting the tattoo. The Food and Drug Administration (FDA) has not approved any pigments for injection into the skin for cosmetic purposes.

Metals used in body piercings can also cause allergic reactions. Nickel is associated with more complications. Scan the QR code below to view list of all acceptable metals.

**Risk of infection**

There is potential for exposure to bloodborne pathogens and airborne viruses. Practice proper precautions to limit exposure and transmission.

Follow the aftercare information provided. Body art procedures can appear healed when they are still open wounds.