

iUBT422 – Provide and maintain gel nail enhancements

URN – D/617/6731

Guided Learning Hours: 46

Learning outcome	Assessment criteria	Taught content to include
LO1 Be able to prepare for gel nail enhancement services	1.1. Prepare themselves, client and work area for nail enhancement services	• Preparation of working area • Equipment • Products • Work wear • Personal appearance and behaviour • Hygiene e.g. sterilising/sanitising tools and equipment • Procedures used to prepare client for treatment • Client care and modesty
	1.2. Use suitable consultation techniques to identify treatment objectives	• An example of a consultation form can be downloaded from www.vtctskills.org.uk • Consulting in a suitable area • Positive body language • Positioning of the client • Good communication skills (asking open and/or closed questions where appropriate) • Professionalism • Contra-indications and contra-actions • Treatment plan • Products used • Consent • Confidentiality • Client's signature
	1.3. Carry out a nail and skin analysis	• Skin type and condition • Nail type and condition • Natural nail shape e.g. oval, square, spoon, fan

		• Nail formation • Nail thickness • Factors affecting nail growth - Health - Age - Diet - Medication - Climate - Damage - Lifestyle
	1.4. Provide clear recommendations to the client	• Taking into account the following: - The outcome of the skin and nail analysis - Client requirements - Occupation - Lifestyle - Current regime - Suitability of the gel nail enhancement system - Recommendations for ongoing maintenance treatments and the level of commitment required - Managing client expectations and realistic achievable outcome
	1.5. Select products, tools and equipment to suit client treatment needs, skin types and nail conditions	• Couch or chair • Trolley or manicure table • Stool • Magnifying lamp • Towels • Additional support if appropriate • Bedroll • Disinfecting fluid • Tissues • Lint free pads • Sterilising solution • UV cabinet • Autoclave • Hot bead steriliser • Chemical immersion equipment • Waste disposal • Files • Buffers

		• Nylon brush • Orange wood stick • Cuticle tools • Clippers • Scissors • Appropriate light source i.e. UV or LED • Nail tips • Tip cutters • Hand sanitiser • Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) - Face mask - Protective glasses • Natural nail cleanser • Nail preparation products • Adhesives • Oils • Acetone free nail polish remover • Acetone • Base coat • Top coat • Enamel • Tip/product remover • Gel system products - Primer appropriate to the system and manufacturer's instructions - Gel base coat - Builder gels: white, pink, clear, cover or camouflage pink/beige - Gel top coat or sealer - Gel cleanser
	1.6. Describe salon requirements for preparing themselves, the client and the work area	• Any particular rights, restrictions and acts applicable to nail enhancement services • Record keeping • Code of practice/ethics • Insurance and professional association membership • Professional appearance
	1.7. Describe the environmental conditions suitable for nail enhancement services	• Lighting • Heating

		• Ventilation • Dust extraction • Protective equipment • Noise levels • Available space • Music • General hygiene • Waste disposal including contaminated waste • Décor • Equipment • Privacy • Reception areas • General use/treatment areas
	1.8. Describe different consultation techniques used to identify treatment objectives	• Positive body language • Positioning of the client (no barriers between self and client) • Good communication skills (asking open and/or closed questions where appropriate) • Verbal and non-verbal communication
	1.9. Explain the importance of carrying out a detailed nail and skin analysis	• Skin type and condition • Nail type, shape and condition • Contra-indications • Scope of treatment(s) • Managing client expectations with realistic achievable outcomes • Identification of nail enhancement system suitability • Home care advice • Aftercare advice
	1.10. Describe how to select products, tools and equipment to suit client treatment needs, skin and nail conditions	• The importance of selecting the correct products, tools and equipment based upon client consultation, client requirements and skin and nail analysis • Couch or chair • Trolley or manicure table • Stool • Magnifying lamp • Towels • Additional support if appropriate • Bedroll • Disinfecting fluid

		• Tissues • Lint free pads • Sterilising solution • UV cabinet • Autoclave • Hot bead steriliser • Chemical immersion equipment • Waste disposal • Files • Buffers • Nylon brush • Orange wood stick • Cuticle tools • Clippers • Scissors • Appropriate light source i.e. UV or LED • Nail tips • Tip cutters • Hand sanitiser • Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) - Face mask - Protective glasses • Natural nail cleanser • Nail preparation products • Adhesives • Oils • Acetone free nail polish remover • Acetone • Base coat • Top coat • Enamel • Tip/product remover • Gel system products - Primer appropriate to the system and manufacturer's instructions - Gel base coat - Builder gels: white, pink, clear, cover or camouflage pink/beige - Gel top coat or sealer
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		- Gel cleanser • The methods, hygiene and safety precautions, effects and benefits of the gel system
	1.11. Identify nail and skin conditions	• Bacterial infection • Beau's lines • Bitten nails • Blue nail • Brittle nails • Bruised nails • Discoloured nails • Dry nails • Flaking nails • Hang nails • Koilonychia • Lamella dystrophy • Leuconychia • Misshapen nails • Onychatrophia • Onychauxis • Onychia • Onychocryptosis • Onychogryphosis • Onycholysis • Onychomycosis (tinea unguium) • Onychophagy • Onychophyma • Onychoptosis • Onychorrhaxis • Paronychia (whitlow) • Pitting • Pterygium • Sepsis • Split nails • Transverse ridges • Vertical ridges • Weak nails • Mature skin

		• Young skin • Sensitive skin • Dehydrated skin • Dry skin • Dermatitis • Eczema • Psoriasis • Corns • Chilblains • Warts • Verrucae
	1.12. Describe the contra-indications which prevent or restrict nail enhancement services	• Contra-indications requiring medical permission – in circumstances where medical permission cannot be obtained clients must sign an informed consent form stating that the treatment and its effects have been fully explained to them and confirm that they are willing to proceed without permission from their GP: - Haemophilia - Any condition already being treated by a GP, dermatologist or another practitioner - Medical oedema - Arthritis - Nervous or psychotic conditions - Recent operations on the area - Diabetes - Inflamed nerve - Undiagnosed pain - Acute rheumatism • Contra-indications that restrict treatment: - Fever - Infectious or contagious diseases - Under the influence of recreational drugs or alcohol - Diarrhoea and vomiting - Any known allergies - Undiagnosed lumps and bumps - Inflammation - Cuts - Bruises - Abrasions

		- Scar tissue (2 years for major operations and 6 months for a small scar) - Recent fractures (minimum 3 months) - Sunburn - Repetitive strain injury - Carpal tunnel syndrome - Loss of skin sensation - Severely bitten/damaged nails - Nail separation - Eczema - Psoriasis - Dermatitis - Broken bones
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LO2 Be able to provide gel nail enhancement services	2.1. Communicate and behave in a professional manner	• Explanation of treatment • Benefits, limitations and co-operation required • Client care, modesty and support • Communication • Correct posture, hygiene and a professional approach to the client throughout treatment
	2.2. Follow health and safety working practices and Industry Code of Practice for nail services	• Fire Precautions Act • Health & Safety at Work Act • Health and Safety (First Aid) Regulations • The Management of Health & Safety at Work Regulations • The Workplace (Health, Safety & Welfare) Regulations • The Manual Handling Operations Regulations • The Personal Protective Equipment at Work Regulations • The Provision and Use of Work Equipment Regulations • The Control of Substances Hazardous to Health Regulations (COSHH) • The Electricity at Work Regulations • Reporting of Injuries, Diseases and Dangerous Occurrences Regulations (RIDDOR) • Disability Discrimination Act • Data Protection Act/General Data Protection Regulations (GDPR) • Adhere to all product safety precautions and manufacturers' instructions

		• Legislation which relates to the work being carried out, the environment and the client with whom the nail technician is working • Industry code of practice for nail services
	2.3. Position themselves and client correctly throughout the service	• Ensuring the client is comfortable and correctly supported • Nail technician maintaining correct working posture throughout treatment • Nail technician self-care
	2.4. Use products, tools, equipment and techniques to suit client's service needs, nail and skin conditions	• Couch or chair • Trolley or manicure table • Stool • Magnifying lamp • Towels • Additional support if appropriate • Bedroll • Disinfecting fluid • Tissues • Lint free pads • Sterilising solution • UV cabinet • Autoclave • Hot bead steriliser • Chemical immersion equipment • Waste disposal • Files • Buffers • Nylon brush • Orange wood stick • Cuticle tools • Clippers • Scissors • Appropriate light source i.e. UV or LED • Nail tips • Tip cutters • Hand sanitiser • Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) - Face mask

		- Protective glasses • Natural nail cleanser • Nail preparation products • Adhesives • Oils • Acetone free nail polish remover • Acetone • Base coat • Top coat • Enamel • Tip/product remover • Gel system products - Primer appropriate to the system and manufacturer's instructions - Gel base coat - Builder gels: white, pink, clear, cover or camouflage pink/beige - Gel top coat or sealer - Gel cleanser • Gel nail enhancement techniques - Nail preparation - Tip selection - Tip tailoring and application - Blending - Overlay application - Curing procedure (appropriate light source: UV/LED) - Filing and finishing - Natural overlay - Tip and overlay • Maintenance services - Repair (including lifting, cracking and premature loss) - Infill - Rebalance - Removal
	2.5. Complete the service to the satisfaction of the client	• Conclusion of service in appropriate manner to meet client's needs, manufacturers' instructions and nail enhancement system specification • Check service results with client

		• Ensure a commercially acceptable result is achieved in-line with client requirements
	2.6. Record the results of the service	• Client response to service and feedback • Note benefits of the nail enhancement service • Product advice • Home care advice • Store records in line with current data protection legislation
	2.7. Provide suitable aftercare advice	• Recommendations for immediate aftercare and treatment maintenance • Product recommendations • Lifestyle • Recommendation of further salon maintenance treatments and advice on removal including possible contra-actions if correct removal procedures are not followed
	2.8. State how to communicate and behave in a professional manner	• Consultation • Treatment explanation • Client care • Hygiene • Good communication skills
	2.9. Describe health and safety working practices and industry code of practice for nail services	• Fire Precautions Act • Health & Safety at Work Act • Health and Safety (First Aid) Regulations • The Management of Health & Safety at Work Regulations • The Workplace (Health, Safety & Welfare) Regulations • The Manual Handling Operations Regulations • The Personal Protective Equipment at Work Regulations • The Provision and Use of Work Equipment Regulations • The Control of Substances Hazardous to Health Regulations (COSHH) • The Electricity at Work Regulations • Reporting of Injuries, Diseases and Dangerous Occurrences Regulations (RIDDOR) • Disability Discrimination Act • Data Protection Act/General Data Protection Regulations (GDPR) • Industry code of practice for nail services

	2.10. Explain the importance of positioning themselves and the client correctly throughout the service	• Ensuring the client is comfortable and correctly supported • Nail technician maintaining correct working posture throughout treatment • Technician self-care
	2.11. Explain the importance of using products, tools, equipment and techniques to suit clients service needs, nail and skin conditions	• Couch or chair • Trolley or manicure table • Stool • Magnifying lamp • Towels • Additional support if appropriate • Bedroll • Disinfecting fluid • Tissues • Lint free pads • Sterilising solution • UV cabinet • Autoclave • Hot bead steriliser • Chemical immersion equipment • Waste disposal • Files • Buffers • Nylon brush • Orange wood stick • Cuticle tools • Clippers • Scissors • Appropriate light source i.e. UV or LED • Nail tips • Tip cutters • Hand sanitiser • Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) - Face mask - Protective glasses • Natural nail cleanser • Nail preparation products • Adhesives

		• Oils • Acetone free nail polish remover • Acetone • Base coat • Top coat • Enamel • Tip/product remover • Gel system products - Primer appropriate to the system and manufacturer's instructions - Gel base coat - Builder gels: white, pink, clear, cover or camouflage pink/beige - Gel top coat or sealer - Gel cleanser • Gel nail enhancement techniques - Nail preparation - Tip selection - Tip tailoring and application - Blending - Overlay application - Curing procedure (appropriate light source: UV/LED) - Filing and finishing - Natural overlay - Tip and overlay • Maintenance services - Repair (including lifting, cracking and premature loss) - Infill - Rebalance - Removal • Awareness of industry trends and developments – products and techniques e.g. dip system, putty system
	2.12. Describe how nail services can be adapted to suit client service needs, nail and skin conditions	• Restrictions – contra-indications and contra-actions • Nail shapes, types and conditions • Skin condition • Client preferences and commitment • Product availability and suitability • Time scales • Costs

		Adapting the treatment to suit the needs of the client
	2.13. Describe how to maintain and remove nail enhancements	- Rate and process of nail growth - After care and home care advice - Infilling - Rebalancing - Replacement of overlay - Repair of overlay - Identification of correct removal method - Removal procedures - Removal procedure timings
	2.14. State the contra-actions that may occur during and following service and how to respond	- Excessive erythema - Skin irritation - Exothermic reaction - Allergic reaction - Itching - Inflammation - Lifting - Premature loss of enhancement - Ridging - Shedding - Separation - Infection - Hang nail - Overexposure - Client abuse; biting/picking - Damaged cuticle - Holes in nail plate - Bacterial infection of the nail - Dehydration - Discolouration - Sepsis - Loss of natural nail - Removal procedures - Cold purified water - Referral procedures

	2.15. State the importance of completing the service to the satisfaction of the client	• Concluding the service in appropriate manner to meet client's needs, manufacturers' instructions and nail enhancement specification • Check service results with client
	2.16. State the aftercare advice that should be provided	• Maintaining records • Compliance with current data protection legislation • Recommendations for immediate aftercare • Recommendations for treatment maintenance and home care • Recommendations for use of specialised products if applicable • Lifestyle • Recommendations for further salon treatments • Recommendations regarding maintenance and removal including possible contra-actions of incorrect maintenance and removal
	2.17. Describe the chemical process involved in the nail enhancement system	• Polymerisation • Exothermic effect • Light curing • Light sources: UV/LED • Appropriate timings • Lamp wattage, positioning and safety • Monomers • Polymers • Oligomers • Primers • Solvents
	2.18. Describe the structure and functions of the nail and skin	• The nail - Free edge - Hyponychium - Eponychium - Perionychium - Lunula - Mantle - Cuticle - Nail plate - Nail bed - Nail fold - Matrix - Nail wall

		- Nail growth - Protection • The skin - Epidermis ▪ Stratum corneum ▪ Stratum lucidum ▪ Stratum granulosum ▪ Stratum spinosum/malpighian layer ▪ Stratum germinativum/basal layer - Dermis ▪ Blood supply ▪ Lymphatic supply ▪ Hair follicle ▪ Hair ▪ Sebaceous gland ▪ Sweat gland: Eccrine and apocrine ▪ Sensory nerve endings ▪ Dermal papilla ▪ Collagen ▪ Elastin ▪ Histiocytes ▪ Mast cells ▪ Fibroblasts ▪ Erector pili muscle ▪ Melanocytes - Subcutaneous/adipose layer ▪ The fatty layer underneath the dermis - Functions ▪ Secretion ▪ Heat regulation ▪ Absorption ▪ Protection/acid mantle (composition and formation) ▪ Elimination/excretion ▪ Sensation ▪ Vitamin D formation (7-dehydro-cholesterol)
	2.19. Describe the different nail shapes	• Fan • Hook • Oval

		• Pointed • Round • Ski jump/spoon • Square
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Assessment		
Portfolio of evidence containing:	• Consultation including medical history • Nail and skin analysis • Nail enhancement service details including specific details of products used and client's reactions • Client feedback • Aftercare and home care advice including retail recommendations and advice for further treatments • Learner and client signatures • Treatment date	
• Evidence of 6 treatments to include - 1 full set of natural nail overlays - 2 full sets of tips and overlays - 2 maintenance and repair treatments on full sets of nail enhancements - 1 removal of a full set of tips and overlays	Treatments should be evidenced through the consultation form. These are internally assessed by the college lecturer and verified by the external examiner.	
MCQ		
Practical examination		

Guide to taught content
The content contained within the unit specification is not prescriptive or exhaustive but is intended to provide helpful guidance to teachers and learners with the key areas that will be covered within the unit, and, relating to the kinds of evidence that should be provided for each assessment objective specific to the unit learning outcomes.

Document History

Version	Issue Date	Changes	Role
v1	25/09/2019	First published	Qualifications and Regulation Co-ordinator
v2	18/06/2026	Rebranding	Development Administrator