

Information about the risks of tattooing

The process of getting tattooed can involve some risks. That is why you have to make sure you are well rested and ate well before coming to the appointment. Let your artist know if there are any complications, are you using any medication, do you suffer from allergies, epilepsy or hypersensitivity. Also check www.veiligtatoeerenenpiercen.nl if the studio of your interest has a license to tattoo in the Netherlands. This permit indicates that the studio works in accordance with the hygiene guidelines of the National Center for Hygiene and Safety.

Don't get tattooed if:

- in places where you have undergone plastic surgery or radiation therapy in the past year;
- on a scar that is less than a year old;
- in a place tattooed less than six weeks ago;
- in an area where a tattoo was lasered away less than three months ago or where the laser wound has not yet healed;
- on irritated skin such as bumps, dark moles or swellings;
- if you are under the influence of alcohol or drugs;
- if you are pregnant.

In addition, it is not recommended to get a tattoo if you suffer from one of the following conditions

- diabetes
- haemophilia
- chronic skin disease
- allergy to tattoo materials or ink
- immune disorder
- cardiovascular abnormalities.

Do you have one of these conditions or do you use anticoagulants or antibiotics? And do you still want a tattoo? First discuss the options with a doctor.

For background information about the above risks, visit www.veiligtatoeerenenpiercen.nl.

Tattooing

There is a risk of contamination from blood-borne diseases such as hepatitis B and C, because a wound occurs during tattooing. Therefore, check that the tattoo artist is working hygienically. Hygienic practices are also important to prevent your new tattoo from getting infected. In any case, make sure that:

- The skin is cleaned, disinfected and shaved with a new disposable razor before tattooing.
- the needles and ink are sterile packaged and used only for you. The needles are individually packed,
- ink is contained in small ink cups;
- clean tissues are used during tattooing to clean the skin.
- the tattoo artist wears gloves while getting the tattoo and changes them if he or she touches anything other than the tattoo machine, a tissue or your skin.
- the tattoo is cared for and covered afterwards.

After care

A new tattoo is similar to a scrape wound. Poor care and unsanitary handling can cause wound infections and scar tissue. In addition, wound infections can lead to a less beautiful tattoo. If you take good care of the tattoo, it will take two to six weeks for the wound to heal. The tattoo artist provides written explanations about the aftercare of tattoos. Read this carefully.