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INFORMATION ABOUT THE RISKS OF A TATTOO

You are planning to have a tattoo. It's important for you to be informed in advance about a number of potential risks. The application of a tattoo is a skin piercing operation. Proper method and proper use of equipment should avoid you from being infected with blood-borne diseases such as Hepatitis B and C. In addition, by improper care and unhygienic treatment (either by yourself or by the practitioner) wound infections that are harmful can occur and will not make your tattoo look any better. Under the age of 16 a tattoo is not recommended and not done by me. Do you want a tattoo and you're under 18, you have to come to the studio with a legal representative. Before getting a tattoo you will be asked to read and sign a consent form (a statement). This consent form contains a.o. a number of questions about your health. Completing the consent form is for your own safety. If you are under the age of 18 your legal representative has to sign the form and show proper identification. The consent form remains in the possession of the tattoo artist and is kept confidential.

The application of a tattoo

During the application of the tattoo, ink pigments are inserted underneath the skin with small needles. This creates a for life permanent image. The ink and pigments meet strict requirements. Before the tattoo is applied, the skin is cleaned and disinfected. If necessary, the skin is shaved, this should be done with a new disposable razor. Applying a tattoo should be done as hygienic as possible; the needle that goes through your skin may not have been used previously, must come from a sterile package and should not be touched with bare hands. The ink that is used must also be sterile. The ink that is used for you is kept in small ink cups and may only be used for you. Left-over ink is discarded. Tissues will be used during the application of the tattoo. Of course, these tissues are clean and will be discarded immediately after use. The tattoo artist will wear gloves while applying your tattoo. Afterwards, the tattooed spot will be cared for and covered.

The maintenance of the tattoo

A recent applied tattoo is similar to a gall. The wound caused by tattooing needs time and care to heal. With proper care the wound will heal in about one week. You will get oral and written instructions from the artist on how to take care of your tattoo. The instructions should a.o. state that in case of any problems (for instance: severe redness, swelling, suppurate or wound fluid) you need to contact your family doctor. During the healing process, we recommend you not to swim, not to bath (showering is allowed), not to sunbath (neither a tanning bed) and not to make use of the sauna and/or hot tub. Also, even after the tattoo is healed, always use a high protected sunscreen while sunbathing.