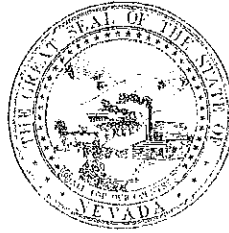


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# Los Angeles Times

**The Perils of Pedicure: Health Officials Warn of Unclean Foot Baths** With the arrival of sandal season and the rush to get pedicures, state health officials are warning women about a new danger at nail salons: a bacteria that can cause boils and skin ulcers. A recent survey indicated that *M. fortuitum* bacteria could be growing in as many as 89% of foot baths in the state's 36,725 salons.

# The New York Times

- **Microbe in Salon Footbath Is Suspected in Boil Outbreak**

BY LAWRENCE K. ALTMAN

A trip to the nail salon had far from beautiful results for at least 110 customers at a California establishment, government health officials reported here today. The customers, all but one of them women, developed boils and skin ulcers, apparently from a microbe growing in a footbath used for pedicures. The boils typically developed anywhere from 10 days to four months after a pedicure in the salon and numbered as many as 37 in one woman, said Dr. Kevin L. Winthrop, an epidemiologist who led the investigation of the outbreak that occurred.

.....

In the first known cases of this type, the personal injury attorneys of Bohn & Bohn reached a **\$2.919 Million settlement** in cases brought against the 'Fancy Nails' salon in Watsonville, California and manufacturer and suppliers of pedispa chairs used at the salon, after 74 people suffered severe skin infections. Caused by mycobacteria that had grown in improperly cleaned and disinfected pedicure footspas, the infections resulted in painful oozing lesions and boils on salon patrons' lower legs, and in some cases, other parts of their bodies, leaving permanent scars and disfigurement.

**\*As the weather changes and pedicure business increases, State Board wants to remind all salon staff and owners of the INFECTION CONTROL PROCEDURES already in place to ensure your business does not become the subject of articles such as the ones above. See reverse side of this page for procedures to follow for disinfecting footbaths . \***

NAC 644.325

BETWEEN EACH CUSTOMER

1. Drain all water and remove all foreign debris from the footspa.
2. Clean all surfaces of the bowl and all components using low sudsing soap or detergent and a non-abrasive brush. Remove all visible residue from the basin and rinse thoroughly with clean, clear water.
3. Disinfect all surfaces and components with an EPA registered disinfectant with demonstrated bactericidal, fungicidal, tuberculocidal and virucidal (kills HIV-1) activity used according to manufacturers instructions.
4. Rinse off with clean water and wipe all parts dry with a clean towel.

AT THE END OF EACH DAY

1. Remove the screens and clean all debris trapped behind the screen for each footspa.
2. Wash each component and basin with with low sudsing soap or detergent using a soft brush and disinfect the components and areas behind them with an EPA registered disinfectant with demonstrated bactericidal, fungicidal, tuberculocidal and virucidal activity.
3. Fill the basin with clean warm water , pour into basin 3 teaspoons of low foaming dishwasher crystals and 1 ounce of bleach for up to 5 gallons of water. Turn on whirlpool jets and run for 10 minutes.
4. Turn off whirlpool jets and drain water from the basin, rinse the basin and all other components with clean water.
5. Refill the basin with clear water, turn on jets and run for one minute. Drain water from basin and wipe dry with a clean towel.

ONCE A WEEK OVERNIGHT CLEANING

1. Follow steps 1 through 4 as listed above (At the end of each day).
2. Turn off the whirlpool jets after 10 minutes and let the solution sit overnight in the basin (6-10 hours).
3. The next morning, drain, rinse then refill the basin and run jets for one minute to flush the system.
4. Drain the water , rinse and dry with a clean towel.

**THE BOARD WOULD LIKE TO REMIND ITS LICENCEES THAT THE HEALTH AND SAFETY REGULATIONS ARE FOR THE PROTECTION OF THE PUBLIC AS WELL AS THE LICENSEES. THESE LAWS AND REGULATIONS ARE MEANT TO PREVENT THE SPREAD OF DISEASE, INFECTION OR OTHER COMMUNICABLE CONDITIONS. ESTABLISHMENT OWNERS, MANAGERS AND LICENSEES ARE RESPONSIBLE FOR ENSURING THE HEALTH AND SAFETY LAWS AND REGULATIONS ARE STRICTLY FOLLOWED.**

**If you have any questions or concerns regarding the proper infection control procedures , please contact Board staff at (702) 486-6542 or (775) 688-1442.**