

The Northern California Healthy Nail Salon Programs: A County-based Healthy Nail Salon Assessment Survey



Asian Health Services

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Background

- The California Healthy Nail Salon Collaborative (Collaborative)
 - Established in 2005
 - Asian Health Services
- First Healthy Nail Salon Recognition Program
 - David Chiu, former San Francisco Board Supervisor (now CA Assembly Member)
 - San Francisco's Department of Environment



Preparation/Testing for safer alternative nail polish removers

Healthy Nail Salon Program Requirement

Steps To Become a Healthy Nail Salon

- Fill out and send in the Registration Form
- Attend a free training workshop pertaining to program requirements and benefits
- Complete Program requirements and schedule a site visit

Program Requirements

- Use nail polishes **without** the toxic trio (toluene, formaldehyde, dibutyl phthalate)
- Safer nail polish removers
- Avoid using nail polish thinners.
- All nail salon staff should wear nitrile gloves when using nail products.
- Ventilate the salon. Designate a specific area for artificial nail services.
- Install a mechanical ventilation unit within one year of entering the program.
- Train all salon nail staff.
- Commit to adopting safer nail products.
- Do not allow customers to bring in products unless they meet program criteria.

Objectives

- To conduct a survey and interview nail salon owners who have participated in the Healthy Nail salon Programs
- To analyze and summarize survey results
- To develop a factsheet on the outcome of the healthy salon survey results

Visited **26** healthy nail salons (HNS) in **three** counties and **eight** cities. (Total 55 HNS)

Counties: Alameda, San Francisco, San Mateo

Cities: Alameda, Albany, Oakland, San Leandro, Berkeley, San Francisco, Pacifica, Millbrae

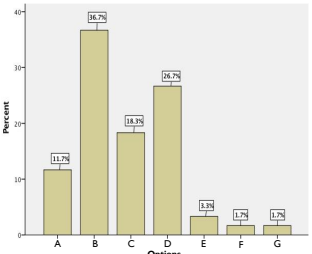
Results

Why did you decide to participate in the healthy nail salon programs?

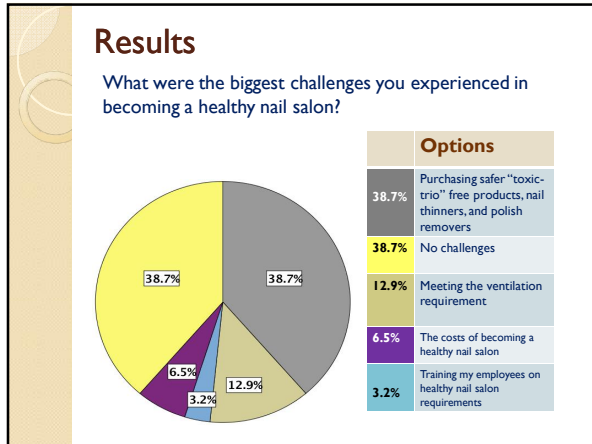
Options	Percent %
A. "I wanted to create a safe and healthier workplace for my employees and customers."	55.8
B. "I felt it was the right thing to do for the environment."	25.6
C. "I wanted to bring in more customers."	16.3
D. "Other"	2.3
Total	100.0

Results

What have been the biggest benefits of being a healthy nail salon?



Options	Percent %
B My employees and I are healthier.	36.7%
D My salon's air quality is better.	26.7%
C My salon attracts and keeps more customers.	18.3%
A Recognition from the county.	11.7%
E I have seen an increase in my revenue.	3.3%
F I do not obtain any benefits.	1.7%
G Other.	1.7%



Owners' Responses

"I heard that if nail salon workers work more than 17 years in nail salons, they're more likely to suffer from cancers. That was why I joined the program."

"It separates us from other nail salons. It shows how much we care about our health as well as our customers' health."

"It's difficult to find the right products and meet the right standards at the same time."

"The products which do not smell bad tend to have bad quality. The polish lifts off easily. I hope there will be nail polishes which are both affordable and have good quality."

Program challenges and successes

Challenges

- Using provided ventilation unit (noisy)
- Using recommended nail salon products

Successes

- Salon owners and employees feel healthier
- Salon's air quality feels to be better
- Good relationship between owners and employees
- Employees and customers satisfaction
 - Increase new customers, **76.9%**
 - Current customers return to salons, **61.5%**

Ventilation Unit for Acrylic Nails

- ### Recommendations
- Continue to interview and follow-up with salon owners, conduct similar surveys with employees and customers
 - Provide more research updates on safer nail salon products
 - Provide more consumer education and expand advertisement of healthy nail salon programs in local salons' jurisdictions
 - Explore less noisy ventilation systems

Give-back Product

Healthy Nail Salon Acknowledgement- Advertisement Poster

Abad Design

Size:
12.25" x 17.25"

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All participating Collaborative healthy nail salon owners