

### Student Handout

#### Scalds and Burns

Scalds and burns are not uncommon in hair salons. Most of these injuries are relatively minor, but can be extremely painful, take a long time to heal, and can leave scarring if not cared for properly.

#### Examples of Hazards

- ❑ Hot equipment (curling irons, hair dryers)
- ❑ Hot water – washing hair or in the washroom
- ❑ Chemical burns

#### Safety tips

- ❑ Turn off hot equipment when not in use.
- ❑ Take care when handling hot equipment – look before you reach.
- ❑ Keep your work station tidy to prevent slips and trips against hot equipment.
- ❑ Check whether there is a thermostat to control the water temperature at the hair washing stations and in the washrooms. If not, ask your employer if it would be possible to have one installed.
- ❑ When turning on water, start by turning on the cold, then gradually adding hot water until you reach the desired temperature.
- ❑ If you burn or scald yourself, immediately immerse the area in cold water for at least five minutes or until the pain subsides. Cooling the burn reduces swelling by conducting heat away from the skin. Don't put ice on the burn.

