**44:12:01:17.  Sterile equipment -- Packaging and storage.** All sterile equipment and supplies must be stored in a closed, dustproof container to prevent being contaminated. All needles and tubes must be packaged prior to autoclaving either individually or in quantities for individual tattoos. Autoclave packages must be constructed so that the contents are visible without opening the package. Autoclave packages containing equipment that has been autoclaved must be dated with an expiration date. The expiration date may not exceed 30 days from the date autoclaved. Sterile equipment may not be used after the expiration date without being resterilized. Commercially available, individually packaged, sterilized equipment may be used before the manufacturer's expiration date.

 **Source:** 19 SDR 64, effective November 3, 1992; 39 SDR 119, effective January 8, 2013; 46 SDR 65, effective November 26, 2019.

 **General Authority:** SDCL 34-1-17(8).

 **Law Implemented:** SDCL 9-34-17, 34-1-17(8).