

however, not be seen as an alternative to a formal qualification – especially when working in the medical aesthetic industry. Short courses are not listed on the NQF, are not credit bearing and do not lead to a qualification.

Only relying on short courses to become skilled in advanced medical aesthetic practices could be

unsafe, as it would be difficult to prove competence should something go wrong.

Take-home message

Therapists should clearly understand their level of training, work only within their scope of practice, always act within the best interest of the public, and provide the highest quality and safest practice possible. **A2**



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The National Qualifications Sub-Framework is governed by 3 Sub-Frameworks:

General and Further Educations Qualifications Sub-Framework

Higher Education Sub-Framework

Occupational Qualifications Sub-Framework

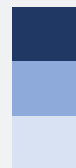


TABLE 1 A short summary of qualifications in the beauty industry in South Africa (South African Qualifications Authority, 2020)

(Information available at <http://allqs.sqa.org.za/search.php?cat=qual>)

NQF LEVEL	Qualification type	QUALIFICATIONS registered on the NQF	Qualification type	QUALIFICATIONS registered on the NQF
10	Doctoral Degree (3 years)	Doctor of Health Sciences in Somatology		
9	Master's Degree (2 years)	Master of Health Sciences in Somatology		
8	Bachelor Honours Degree (1 year) Bachelor's Degree (4 years) Postgraduate Diploma (1 year)	Postgraduate Diploma in Somatology	Occupational Certificate (Level 8)	
7	Bachelor's Degree (3 years) Advanced Diploma (1 year)	Advanced Diploma in Somatology / Advanced Diploma in Dermal Aesthetics	Occupational Certificate (Level 7)	
6	Diploma (3 years) Advanced Certificate (1 year)	Diploma in Somatology Advanced Certificate: Health and Skincare	Occupational Certificate (Level 6)	
5	Higher Certificate (1 year)	Higher Certificate: Health and Skincare / Higher Certificate: Beauty Therapy	Occupational Certificate (Level 5)	Diploma: Health and Skincare (currently being realigned) – SAAHSP/CIDESCO
4	National Certificate	National Senior Certificate	Occupational Certificate (Level 4)	Certificate: Beauty Care and Health / FET Certificate: Beauty and Nail Technology
3	Intermediate Certificate		Occupational Certificate (Level 3)	Certificate: Beauty Therapy
2	Elementary Certificate		Occupational Certificate (Level 2)	Certificate: Beauty Therapy
1	General Certificate	Gr 9 School level	Occupational Certificate (Level 1)	