

# WHAT CAUSED LIFTING?

Lifting can happen for a variety of different reasons, 99% of the time it is due to improper preparation or applications. Here are a couple of hints and tips to look for!

## *Lifting from the cuticle area – “Correct nail preparation”*

If the gel is lifting near the cuticle area or side walls it can be down to improper preparation. Calgels nail preparation is very basic but VERY important. Always make sure you have removed all the excess cuticle by using a rubystone or metal tool. When removing the shine make certain you have removed the shine into the side walls – you can use the yellow 240 grit file on the natural nail in the direction the natural nail grows. Make certain you dust the whole area.

Using Calguard, antiseptic pre-treatment, to the whole nail, and ensure you wait for it to dry before applying the gel.

## *Lifting from the cuticle area – “Application of Calgel”*

If you have “flooded” the cuticles with gel and/or the gel is touching the side walls and cured before wiping clean with a wooden manicure stick, the gel will lift. If the gel is cured to the skin, our skin produces natural oils which will cause the gel to come away from the skin, allowing an opening for water, oil, lotion, etc to go underneath the gel.

## *Lifting from the free edge – “Sealing the Free edge”*

When missing this step lifting can start sooner than needs be.

- \* More common on Overlays
- \* After you are happy with the application of the gel, and right before curing, place your brush at the tip of the nail and pull the gel down until it wraps its self around the whole of the nail.
- \* Explain to your client that they shouldn't file or cut the free edge because they can also cause the seal to break.

Suggestion: An easy tip when sealing the free edge on short natural nails is to hold your clients nail with your left fingers (mostly the pointer and tall) with your left hand (if right-handed) thumb at the base of the nail. Using your thumb gently pull the skin away from the tip and pull the gel down around the tip of the free edge. Remove any excess

## *Lifting from the free edge – “Peeling, flaking natural nails”*

If your clients natural nail is peeling or flaking (most common on the tip of the nail plate) it can be down to the damage on the nail plate. No matter what product you are applying the peeling layers of the nail plate, will naturally come away from, hence causing the gel to become loose and its connection to the natural nail has been broken. It is recommended for clients who have severely damaged nails to do a series of intense manicures, including hot oil treatments to recondition the natural nail. You may try and wrap the gel under the free edge if you have a few millimetres of growth.

## *Lifting from the middle – “complete medical history”*

If your client's nails are lifting from the centre of the nail plate, it can be caused by something going on in the clients system, mostly related to medication, but in some cases it might only be that the client just can't wear the product. When getting the details of their medical history, make sure you ask what medications they are on, but also if they are on excessive vitamins, or even if they have changed their diet.

## *To prevent lifting “educate your client”*

As a technician we should always educate our client on what will be the best way to keep their nails looking and lasting longer. In doing this ensure that you stress the importance of:

- Explain the importance of associated Calbrook products e.g. topcoats, polish removers, etc are formulated to work with their Calgel nails and will not degrade them in any way.
- “Applying a top coat regularly” not only will the top coat keep the client's nails looking bright and shiny, it is also protecting the gel underneath.
- Protect their gel by wearing gloves when washing up, cleaning, gardening, etc. • Overlays – explain to your client that they must not change the shape nor file or cut the free edge, as this will break the seal.
- Use cuticle oil or cream regularly



Aftercare can be a bonus for each party, the technician and the client. By teaching your clients how to look after their nails can prolong their next visit by 1-2 weeks, meaning they won't be spending the money but sometimes more importantly the time. Making them happy.

And for the technician, proper aftercare teaching, can help make your in-fills easier and faster, and enabling you to get more clients through the door, as well as the extra money you can make on retailing certain items to your client from as little as a top coat, up to essential kits, hand lotion, cuticle creams etc.

Suggestions: You as a technician should encourage your client to purchase some each time they visit you.

