CAMDR

NEWSLETTER

Term: Winter 2017 | Issue 7

PRESIDENT'S CORNER

The last few months have been very busy at CAMDR. We continue to steadily increase our membership. I encourage each of you to talk to a colleague about CAMDR and the ongoing benefits of becoming a part of your association. Check our website - http://www.camdr.ca to view the many benefits and to find out how you can win a free registration to attend the 2018 CAMDR Conference in Halifax!

As we enter our 6th year as an association, we appreciate that this milestone is only possible by the support of our members & corporate sponsors.

On behalf of myself & our Board of Directors, we offer thanks & wish you much peace & great joy during this holiday season and throughout the New Year!

Merlee Steele-Rodway
President

THE SCIENCE OF REPROCESSING

Stephen M Kovach, B.S., C.F.E.R

Director of Education; Healthmark Industries, Fraser, MI USA

It does not matter what we call ourselves; Sterile Processing Area (USA), Central Sterile Service Department (Most of Europe and the world) or Medical Device Reprocessing Department (Canada), we all reprocess medical devices. We might call our departments different names, but we all do the same thing. We make sure a medical device is clean and functional and then either high level disinfect or sterilize it so it can be used again over and over.

I remember back in 1975 being told how to run a steam sterilizer:

- Load the cart with the fluids
- Turn and lock the door tightly
- Press the button
- Watch the graph
- Make sure the ink line has three peaks on the graph
- After the three peaks, a straight line at a certain temperature
- It will buzz when done
- Crack open the door
- Wait 30 minutes
- Slowly pull the items out
- Make sure the indicator turned black
- If all checks out, unload and put away

How times have changed, and they've really have changed for the better. I was not told the why of what I was doing, just to do it this way.

Now it is so important that the staff be technically sound before they can do various tasks in the reprocessing department. We must make sure they understand the why, teach them the how and then the what. In my simple example, I needed to understand the basis of steam sterilization, the theory. I needed to learn how to apply that information to run the sterilizer (what) and then the how, loading and knowing if the load is good to go once it was done.

This is what I call the "Science of Reprocessing"; understanding the why, how and what of all of our tasks and processes, and explaining to our staff so they can apply that knowledge.

We can apply this to any process and any task in our department. For example, the simple action of brushing. Brushing requires friction and fluids to adequately clean a medical device.

First, we teach our staff about cleaning; what is needed and why. Then we explain how to clean using the various methods of brushing, “the push or pull method”. Lastly, we show them how to brush properly.

With this, we can give them the tools to critically think when it comes to brushing a medical device – “The Science of Reprocessing”.

How do I pick a brush to clean a medical device?

- Understand brushing and the various techniques that can be used
- Then, identify the medical device to be cleaned and examine the medical device to understand what you have to clean
    - External surface
    - Internal surface
- Read and understand the IFU for any specific brushes
- Then, pick the brushes from your inventory
- Lastly, start the brushing process correctly with the right tools needed to accomplish the task of cleaning that specific medical device

I believe that if we start taking this approach, getting our staff to understand the “Science of Reprocessing”, we will help reduce both HAI and SSI at every facility. Why? Because that device has been made clean and functional by a reprocessing technician that understands their role, so it can then be high level disinfected or sterilized. What more can we ask of our staff?

If we teach correctly, and let them apply what they know, technicians can use their critical thinking skills to make an impact on better patient outcomes.

In closing, what better way to learn about our profession than to attend the CAMDR meeting next October 11-14, 2018, in Halifax, Nova Scotia. There, we can all network and share our ideas on what we are doing. I look forward to seeing you there and talking about “The Science of Reprocessing” with you. Most of all, I look forward to all of us expanding our knowledge and the great networking opportunities that lie ahead in Halifax.

MEMBERSHIP RENEWALS

New 2-Year Membership!

$80 2-Year Membership is valid from now to December 31, 2019!

Prize Draw - Renew your membership **between now and March 31, 2018** and you will be entered into a draw for 1 (one) complimentary full conference registration* to the **2018 CAMDR Conference in Halifax, October 11-14, 2018**.
(*Travel expenses are not included.)

Recruit a Member!

By encouraging a colleague to join CAMDR you will be entered into a draw for 1 (one) complimentary full conference registration* to the **2018 CAMDR Conference in Halifax, October 11-14, 2018**.
(*Travel expenses are not included.)

Simply ask that they add your name to the referral field upon registering online for CAMDR membership.

Deadline: June 30, 2018.

NEW Online Education Modules

Education – January 1st – You will receive a log in and password in January to access the members only section if you have paid your 2018 membership.

There will be 5 modules – 1 hour in length with a certificate for 1 hour of education in partnership with our Platinum Sponsors for January 1st.

3-M modules are “A Review of Sterilization Methods and Recommended Practices for Healthcare Facilities Part 1” and “A Review of Sterilization Methods and Recommended Practices for Healthcare Facilities Part II: Terminal Low Temperature Sterilization”.

Getinge’s modules are “Traceability and T-Doc Instrument Intelligence” and 2 more in February.

Cantel Medical’s modules are “Medivators Scope Buddy In-service and Competency Assessment” and “Medivators Advantage Plus In-service and Competency Assessment”.

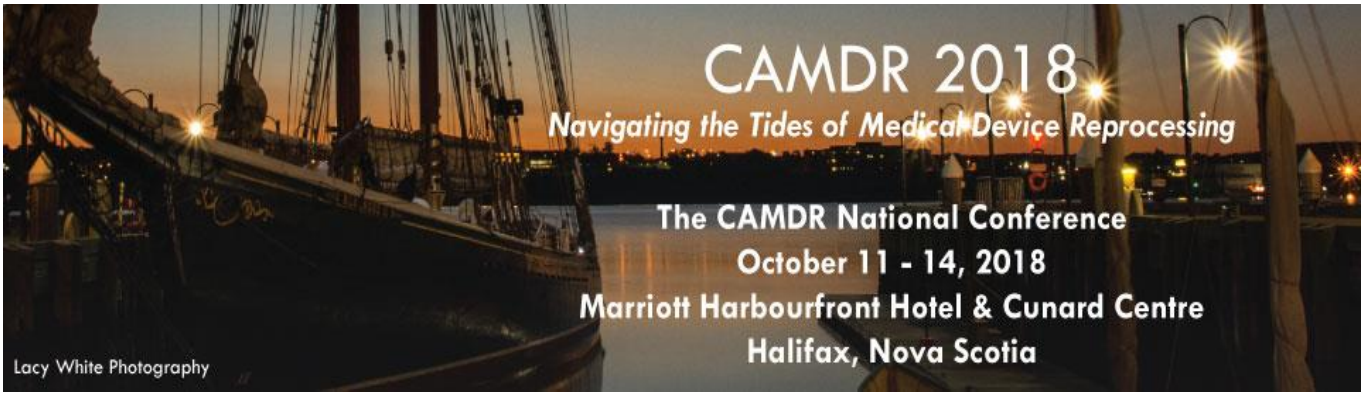
Johnson & Johnson ASP's two modules will be coming in mid-January along with Steris modules. There will 6 more posted in March and anticipate a total of 30-40 throughout the year.

We thank our Platinum sponsors for their partnership and support.

CAMDR Conference

Navigating the Tides of Medical Device Reprocessing

For more information please visit the "Conference" page of our **website**. Registration for the CAMDR 2018 Conference and program details will be accessible on the "Conference" page of our website in **January 2018!**



View the 2018 Conference webpage for all the Latest Information.

Contact Us

Tell us what's going on...

Have an Event or Announcement you would like published on our website? Have some exciting news to share with us?

Contact us today!

camdr@eventsmgt.com

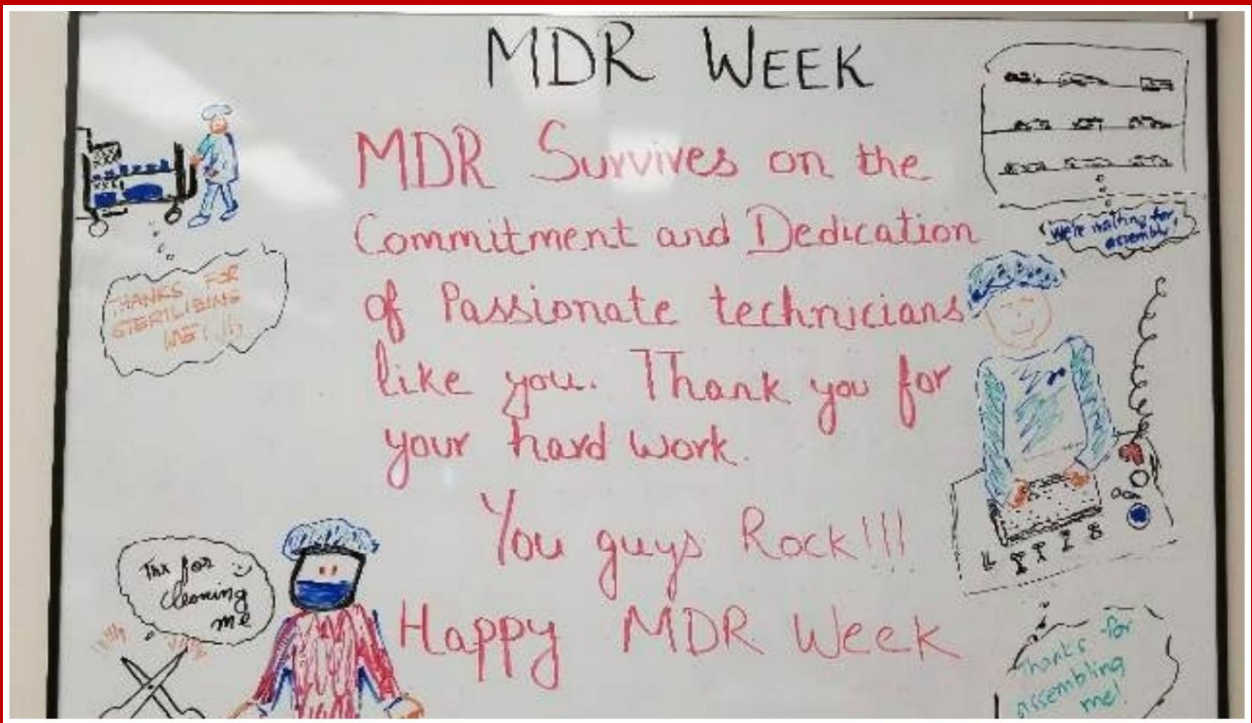
613-507-7603

MDR WEEK CELEBRATIONS

Thank you to all who sent photos of MDR week celebrations from MDR Departments across Canada! We encourage you to continue to share photos of "**MDR in Action**" at any time of the year.
Email photos to **info@camdr.ca**. Please ensure you have permission to share images with the public.

Dartmouth General Hospital & Dalhousie University (bottom)

MDR WEEK CELEBRATIONS



Burnaby General Hospital

MDR WEEK CELEBRATIONS

University Hospital Edmonton

PROVINCIAL ADVISOR BIOGRAPHIES

Thelma Floyd *PROVINCIAL ADVISOR*

I am the Manager of MDR/OR/numerous clinics in Whitehorse General Hospital. We sterilize for all the Operating Rooms/clinics/wards in Whitehorse but recently made our site the central site for all of the Yukon and Atlin, BC.

I moved from Nova Scotia 1 ½ years ago from previously managing both the Operating Room and MDR's over many years.

Making the move to the Yukon has been a great change and challenge. My years of experience with Managing MDR's and working with Accreditation Canada has been an asset to the organization; change is constant.