

camDR news



A Publication of the Canadian Association of Medical Device Reprocessing

www.CAMDR.ca

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From the editor....

I’m excited to bring to our members the Fall edition of the CAMDR newsletter! We’ve given the publication a fresh new look to coincide with the launch of our new website. Check us out at www.camdr.ca or find us on Facebook and Twitter.

In this issue we celebrate **MDR week**, with photos of MDR staff from across Canada. We also introduce you to the people that keep our Association running, including the Provincial Advisors, the management team and the Board of Directors. You’ll also find some interesting articles, a fun puzzle and a message from CAMDR’s President, Dalyce Fredette-Percy.

Enjoy!

MDRD WEEK!! Oct 10-16

It’s time to celebrate and put the spotlight on Medical Device Reprocessing! Encourage your colleagues to reach out to other front-line workers and introduce them to the world of MDR!

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

" You should all be so proud of what you do and how you each make a difference."
~ Dalyce Fredette-Percy

Dear CAMDR Members and Supporters,

Another summer has come and gone. I hope that you all have enjoyed the summer with loved ones, exploring the outdoors or just relaxing. It has been another historic and challenging year dominated by the COVID-19 pandemic. I understand the challenges we have all faced during this outbreak and the uncertainty of the resurgence of the virus.

This is a trying time for everyone. No one has been untouched, but we want to assure all of you that CAMDR will continue to be there to support, educate, and promote our mission through all of our MDR professionals, members and sponsors. I want to send a huge thank you to all of our Board of Directors, Events Management+, Provincial Advisors, and Vendor Sponsors who have incredible passion and unfailing commitment to our organization. You are all Amazing!

As President of CAMDR, I am committed to continue to provide the association with leadership and continue to promote Medical Device Reprocessing. My goal is to provide our members and generous sponsors the opportunity to increase the knowledge and skills to support innovation and educational opportunities in MDR. I am excited and proud to see our membership continuing to grow.

We have all missed the opportunity to gather in person which historically provides us the opportunity to liaise, and network with all our colleagues to discuss key industry topics that affect us all across the country. While we may have missed seeing each other in person at the October 2020 Biennial Conference, our First virtual conference was a huge success, and I am hopeful to see you all in Laval, Quebec in October 2022. Fingers crossed! Stay tuned for updates on the upcoming CAMDR Conference October 13-16, 2022.



Please visit our CAMDR website @ www.camdr.ca with a fresh new look and follow CAMDR on Twitter, LinkedIn & Facebook. There are over 140 amazing educational webinars (bilingual) and opportunities from our Education Committee including our Platinum Sponsors.

MDR week celebrations are just around the corner and will be celebrated by all **October 10-16, 2021**. Our healthcare system has faced tremendous struggles, just as all of you have experienced in your systems across the country. Still, we each balance the work that needs to be accomplished to support and promote MDR and build the recognition of the processes and role which will make healthcare succeed in improving patient care, reduce waste, and optimize both clinical and financial outcomes. You should all be so proud of what you do and how you each make a difference.

Celebrate with pride and acknowledge your coworkers for their continuing commitment in providing safe, quality service to all our patients. This is your time to shine and be ever so proud of your profession. Open the doors to a world of reprocessing. Tell all to come and see how MDR is the heart of the hospital and continue to be proud to keep patients and staff safe.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, reading "Dalyce Fredette-Percy". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

WORD SEARCH

Reprocessing Terms



CLEANING	DETERGENT	DISINFECTANT	SURGERY
BIOBURDEN	GLOVES	BRUSHES	FACEMASK
INSPECTION	DETAILS	INFECTION	QUALITY
PRIONS	TEMPERATURE	TIME	PACKAGING
STORAGE	AUTOClave	SAFETY	EQUIPMENT

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WEN Publishing

You can find the solution to the puzzle on the last page of the newsletter!

MDR WEEK – OCT 10-16

The week of October 10th to 16th is your chance to shine! It's a time for reflection on all the incredible work that you did over the past year in helping to keep your healthcare facility operating smoothly and staying patient centric. It's also an opportunity to educate the rest of the hospital to the importance of Medical Device Reprocessing and to be appreciated by those who rely on our services.

From all of us at CAMDR to all of you across this beautiful country, **THANK YOU!!!**









Healthcare In a Word....

" The ability to be responsive, decisive, adaptive and flexible is more important now than it's ever been."

~ Albert Csapó

To me "progressive" describes healthcare. Healthcare is always moving forward, with improved processes, innovative equipment and supplies, and the advancement in research. Being progressive is moving methodically in a well thought out, step-by-step manner in order to improve the effectiveness and efficiency in patient care. It's best practices and building on these policies and protocols to improve patient outcomes. Progressive also represents change, the ability to change and to accept change and embrace it to meet the challenges of healthcare and improve our responses. As the last year and a half have taught us, the world is evolving and healthcare needs to evolve with it. The ability to be responsive, decisive, adaptive and flexible is more important now than it's ever been. Being progressive in how we meet these challenges will allow us to continue to provide our patients with the best quality of care available.

Since March of last year when the global pandemic became a reality for us, and we initiated our Emergency Operations Centre (EOC), we were faced with multiple daily challenges. These included the increasing number of COVID positive patients, outbreaks at a number of facilities, and disruptions to our supply chain of goods and services. Meeting daily, and eventually multiple times per day, decisions were made in order to continue to maneuver our healthcare facility through the challenges thrown at us by the pandemic. We had to be progressive in our thinking so as to learn from these roadblocks and be better prepared for the uncertain future ahead. After the second and third waves of COVID-19 hit, we continued to evolve in our ability to respond, despite the growing challenges of lack of staff and the backlog of surgical cases we were chasing.

In MDRD, we too were progressive in our response to COVID, by adapting to the ever-changing needs

of the hospital. Under emergency health orders issued by Health Canada we started reprocessing N95 respirators by various methods, we were instrumental in providing support for reprocessing elastomeric respirators and modified our workflows and staffing levels to meet the demands of COVID positive patients.

Looking ahead, this progressive mindset continues to lead us in a patient centric model of healthcare. We've come a long way since March of last year, and despite the countless challenges, we've managed to adapt and grow in our ability to ensure our patients continue to receive the best possible care.

Albert Csapó, MHA, BA
CAMDR, Immediate Past President
Utilization Director, VCH



The MDRAO will have a call this Fall for nominations for the Spring Elections in both the Chapters and Provincial Executive.

Watch for details at www.mdrao.ca

NEW WEBINAR – NOV 30TH

Chemical Indicators (CIs) and What They Tell Us About Device Reprocessing.



Presented by:

Dr Atila Nozari, BSc, MSc, PhD, PMP. Scientific Affairs and Education specialist for 3M Canada, Medical Solutions Division.



Annual General Meeting – Nov 20th

We formally welcome all CAMDR members in good standing to the 2021 CAMDR Annual General Meeting, to be held on Saturday November 20 from 1100 -1200 Eastern. This meeting will highlight the growth of CAMDR over the last year and welcome new leadership. Look for your invitation soon!

WHO WE ARE...MEET TEAM CAMDR

CAMDR Provincial Advisors



Jonas Aspuria

Yukon & NWT



Mandy Solly

British Columbia



Laura Struthers

Manitoba



Danny LeBlanc

Nova Scotia



Anne Augustin

Ontario



Caroline Bernier

Quebec



CAMDR Provincial Advisors cont'd...



Steve Savoie

New Brunswick &
PEI



Crystal Lockyer

Newfoundland &
Labrador



Jason Cottingham

Saskatchewan



Events & Management Plus Inc



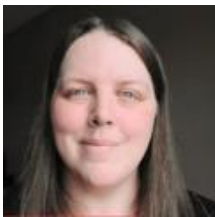
Meredith Slack

Association &
Conference
Manager



Sarah Seward

Sponsorship Coordinator



Amanda Farlinger

Membership
Registrar

CAMDR Board of Directors



**Dalyce Fredette-
Percy**

President



Garry Bassi

President Elect



Kinara Labrenz

Education Director



Albert Csapó

Past President

That time has come around again – Time to get Shot (Flu Shot)!"

"...some people are at greater risk of more severe complications."

~ Anne Augustin

September is here and soon autumn will be upon us! With autumn and winter comes the "Influenza season." What exactly is influenza? How is this illness transmitted? Who can be affected? Why is it so important? Most importantly, what strategies can be taken to protect the staff in the medical device reprocessing department (MDRD)?

Influenza is a respiratory illness caused by the influenza A and B viruses. These viruses can cause a wide spectrum of illness from mild and uncomplicated illness to severe, complicated illness.¹ Typically there is a sudden onset of high fever, cough, muscle aches and pains. Some people also experience: headaches, chills, fatigue, and loss of appetite, sore throat, or runny nose. Others, especially children, may develop nausea, vomiting and diarrhea. Most people recover in 7 to 10 days. Symptoms of the flu can be similar to symptoms of COVID-19.^{2,3}

Influenza is primarily transmitted by droplets of infected respiratory secretions created by coughing or sneezing.¹ These droplets can land on the mucous membranes (eyes, noses, mouth) of another person transmitting the virus; or land on counters, tables, and arms of chairs contaminating the environment; or the contaminated hands of the ill person may touch other people or the environment. If a susceptible person touches items in the environment contaminated with the secretions, and then touches their face (e.g., rubs their eye) and the virus may be transmitted.

The time from exposure to becoming ill is usually two days, but can range from one to four days. While the communicability period is from one day before symptoms start to approximately five days after the onset of the symptoms.^{1,2}

Anyone can acquire an influenza infection. Some people are more at risk for serious outcomes if they become ill. These include: pregnant women; adults and children with chronic health conditions such as cardiac or

pulmonary disorders, diabetes mellitus, cancer, renal disease, anemia, morbid obesity or neurologic or neurodevelopment conditions; residents of nursing homes and other chronic care facilities; people 65 years of age and older; children 6 months to 5 years of age; and indigenous peoples.^{2,3,4}

Why is influenza important? Don't most people recover? While most people will recover within a week or ten days, some people are at greater risk of more severe complications, such as pneumonia, requiring hospitalization and "the public health measures instituted to reduce the impact of the COVID-19 pandemic also greatly impacted the 2019-2020 influenza season in Canada."⁶ Hospitalizations, ICU admissions and deaths among adults due to influenza in 2019-2020 were nearly half that of 2018- 2019.^{6,7} Hospitalizations, ICU Admissions and Deaths Related to Influenza^{6,7}

Time Period	Hospitalization	ICU Admission	Death
2018-2019	3,657	613	224
2019-2020	2493	306	120

How can we protect ourselves, those who are important to us?

Strategy number one – **Eliminate the virus through vaccination!**^{1,2,4,5} Yearly influenza vaccination is recommended for all persons. It is particularly recommended for those at high risk of complication from influenza illness as described above and those capable of transmitting influenza to those at high risk.

This latter group would include all health care providers, those who are household contacts of people in the high risk groups and those providing child care.⁵

Strategy number two - **Environmental Controls!** Environmental cleaning of the shared spaces in the MDRD (e.g., locker room, break/meeting room) should be done at least daily using a cleaner/disinfectant that is able to kill influenza. Follow the manufacturer's instructions for

Time to get Shot cont'd...

dilution and contact time.⁴

Strategy number three - **Administrative Controls!** These include Infection Prevention and Control policies and procedures (e.g., immunization, healthy workplace) along with education and training to support strategies one and two. The healthy workplace policy sets out clear expectations that staff do not come into work when ill with a fever, cough, influenza-like symptoms, runny nose, sore throat, vomiting, diarrhea, rash or conjunctivitis.⁴

Following these three strategies will decrease the risk of acquiring influenza at home and at work.

References:

1. Government of Canada. Flu (influenza): For health professionals [Internet]. 2020 [cited 2021 Aug 29] Available from: <https://www.canada.ca/en/public-health/services/diseases/flu-influenza/health-professionals.html#a1>
2. Government of Ontario. The Flu [Internet]. August 20, 2021 [cited 2021 Aug 31] Available from: <https://www.ontario.ca/page/flu-facts>
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5. National Advisory Committee on Immunization (NACI) Summary of the NACI Seasonal Influenza Vaccine Statement for 2019–2020 [cited 2019 July 21] Available from: <https://www.canada.ca/content/dam/phac-aspc/documents/services/reports-publications/canada-communicable-disease-report-ccdr/monthly-issue/2019-45/issue-6-june-6-2019/ccdrv45i06a01-eng.pdf>

6. Government of Canada. Annual Influenza Report. FluWatch annual report summary 2019–2020 influenza season [Internet]. 2021 [cited 2021 Aug 29] Available from: <https://www.canada.ca/en/public-health/services/diseases/flu-influenza/influenza-surveillance/annual-reports.html>

7. Government of Canada. Annual Influenza Report. FluWatch annual report summary 2018–2019 influenza season [Internet]. 2021. [cited 2021 Aug 29] Available from: <https://www.canada.ca/en/public-health/services/publications/diseases-conditions/fluwatch/2018-2019/annual-report.html#a5>

Anne Augustin, MLT, CIC

CAMDR, Ontario Provincial Advisor
Team Lead of the Outbreak Response and Support
Team Public Health Ontario



Register Now at www.iahcsmm.org



The AQRDM are having 4 lunch-conferences this Fall from 12:15 p.m. to 1 p.m. ET on the Teams platform and are offered free of charge to all members of the AQRDM. Be sure to sign up here at www.aqrdm.org

- **October 13, 2021:** "Inspection of complex instrumentation" presented by Mr. Stephen Kovac
- **November 17, 2021:** "Inspection of small instrumentation" presented by Mr. Jérôme Pontbriand
- **December 15, 2021:** "Forces Project" presented by Madame Mélissa Giroux

Answers to the puzzle on Page 3:

