

CAMDR 2026 Conference October 22-24
St. John's Convention Centre, St. John's, Newfoundland & Labrador

Thursday October 22		
Time	Location	Session Details
08:30-09:15	Bannerman Ballroom	Achieving Organizational Excellence Speaker: Debbie Walsh <u>Description:</u> This presentation will provide an overview of Accreditation Canada- who we are, what accreditation is, the importance of accreditation, how it works, and how we partner for success. I will provide insight into the Health Standards Organization (HSO) and Accreditation Canada and how we build a supportive Health Ecosystem together. I will provide an brief overview of the rigour of Accreditation Canada's Accreditation Program, Accreditation for Quality Improvement and patient safety, levers for change and how we connect quality across the healthcare when partnering for success. Finally, I will provide some insight into the Accreditation Survey and what teams can expect during their organizational and site visits
09:15-10:00	Bannerman Ballroom	MDR and Biomedical Engineering: Partners in Patient Safety Speakers: Christina Cole and Alicia Whitty <u>Description:</u> By working together, MDR and Biomedical Engineering strengthen quality, improve equipment reliability, and protect patients and healthcare staff. Their partnership ensures that every device is clean, functional, and safe for use when it reaches the point of care.
10:00-10:15		Refreshment Break
10:15-11:00	Bannerman Ballroom	IPAC and MDR as Part of a Multi-Disciplinary Team Speakers: Ann Marie Norman and Graham Soper <u>Description:</u> Overview of the roles and responsibilities of the IPAC program and how MDR overlaps to coordinate best practice and patient care outcomes. Discuss how education, product selection and storage placement guidance compliments each other. Discuss communication and collaboration between departments within the organization.
11:00-11:45	Bannerman Ballroom	Navigating the Challenges of Endoscope Reprocessing: Biofilm Formation and Removal Speaker: Daniel Lightfoot <u>Description:</u> A growing body of evidence shows that patient ready endoscopes can remain contaminated despite high-level disinfection or sterilization. Investigators have described the phenomenon of Cyclic Biofilm Build-Up (CBB), how it occurs and why it can defeat even the most rigorous manual reprocessing practice. The first phase of this research focused on CBB in a straight lumen. In phase two, the investigators studied CBB in an assembled endoscope to gain a better understanding of how endoscope structure and lumen geometry can hinder biofilm removal. The speaker will review how and why CBB forms; why colonization and transmission are likely higher than previously understood; how the design, structure and geometry of endoscopes can complicate biofilm removal; and conclude with two studies assessing the efficacy of different cleaning methods against CBB.
11:45-12:45		Lunch Break
12:45-13:30	Victoria 1	Learning Annexes Session 1a: Onsite Vs Offsite MDRA – Strategies That Make Sense For Both Options Speaker: Nicholas Shelton and Anne-Marie Masson

		<u>Description:</u> If you're seeking clarity on the onsite versus offsite reprocessing debate, join this CAMDR learning session for a practical exploration of strategies that support both approaches. Learn how industry leaders leverage procedure growth demands, capacity and resource requirements, plus financial impact statements to give clarity to the onsite vs offsite decision points. The learning session will highlight onsite strategies to maximize current throughput followed by insights into the latest offsite technologies. Real-world examples will ground the discussion, ensuring concepts are both practical and actionable.
12:45-01:30	Victoria 2	Learning Annexes Session 1b: Just Chillin': Elevating Our Confidence In The Art Of Low Temperature Sterilization Assurance Speaker: Larry Talapa <u>Description:</u> Low temperature sterilization is used to process an estimated 15–20 percent of reusable medical devices in healthcare sterile processing departments. Advances in medical instrument design and growing surgical demand have increased the need for low temperature sterilization. This session examines current and emerging low temperature sterilization technologies, identifies key concepts of assurance of sterility, and explains what it means and how it is achieved. Real-world examples will show how enhanced quality assurance monitoring tools empower sterile processing professionals to make informed practice decisions. Thought-provoking questions will be woven throughout, allowing participants to check their knowledge on low temperature sterilization.
12:45-01:30	Victoria 3	Learning Annexes Session 1c: All Hands on Deck: Navigating Instrument Care for MDR Compliance Speaker: multiple speakers <u>Description:</u> Explore best practices for maximizing the lifespan of your surgical instruments—from purchase to end of life. This session covers: Techniques to extend instrument lifespan through proper care Best practices for: - Packing instrument sets - Placing instruments correctly within sets - Using customized trays for added protection - Benefits of laser etching to preserve the passivation layer and prevent damage
13:45-14:30	Victoria 1	Learning Annexes Session 2a: Shark Tank Creative Activity: Understanding Automated Washers Speaker: Adam Okada and Michael Matthews <u>Description:</u> Automated washers are a critical component of effective medical device reprocessing, but not all washers are created equal. In this interactive, team based activity, you'll learn the fundamentals of automated washer technology, including the key differences between low, medium, and high impingement systems, as well as important washer testing methods and result interpretation. Then it's time to get creative! Working in your team as your own fictional washer company, you'll design an innovative automated washer and develop a marketing strategy to showcase its unique features and benefits. Finally, present your creation to a panel of "sharks" in a Shark Tank style pitch competition. Compete for prizes while demonstrating your knowledge, creativity, and understanding of automated washer performance.
13:45-14:30	Victoria 2	Learning Annexes Session 2b: Are Flexible Scopes Patient Ready

		Speaker: Frank Daniels <u>Description:</u> The presentation focuses on the critical role of borescope inspection in evaluating the internal condition of flexible endoscope lumens and its impact on true patient readiness. Flexible endoscopes contain complex internal channels that are not visible during standard visual inspection, yet these inner lumens are the most challenging areas to clean, disinfect, and dry. Traditional reprocessing methods assume effectiveness, but they do not verify the actual condition inside the channels.
13:45-14:30	Victoria 3	Learning Annexes Session 2c: RUHOF ATP2 Complete Contamination Monitoring System - Is your Hospital CSA compliant Speaker: Paul Fleming <u>Description:</u> The Ruhof ATP Complete® 2 System is a quick, easy to use and reliable method to check for microbial contamination. ATP Complete® 2 can be used throughout a healthcare facility where rapid detection of contamination is crucial. In just 15 seconds ATP Complete® 2 verifies the efficacy of cleaning protocols on all non-critical surfaces, surgical instruments, and endoscopes. CSA standards have mandated the use of ATP testing at several points in the reprocessing and environmental cleaning process. We will discuss as to why the Ruhof ATP handheld device is the most robust, effective, and user-friendly ATP tester on the market and will ensure you are compliant with the CSA standards.
14:30-15:00		Refreshment Break
15:00-15:45	Victoria 1	Learning Annexes Session 3a: New Product IQ – Learn. Play. Win. <u>Description:</u> “What’s new in infection prevention? Be among the first to discover the latest innovations designed to change the way healthcare facilities approach medical device reprocessing. “New Product IQ. Play. Learn. Win.” is an interactive, gamification-themed session where attendees will get an inside look at what’s new. Through fast-paced challenges, interactive questions, and friendly competition, you’ll test your knowledge while discovering what these innovations can do. This is not your typical product presentation, it’s an opportunity to explore what’s next, challenge your colleagues, and see how much you really know about the newest solutions in the field. And there’s more than bragging rights on the line, with a chance to win a great prize along the way. Come curious, come ready to play, and be among the first to experience the latest and greatest innovations.
15:00-15:45	Victoria 2	Learning Annexes Session 3b: Reimagining MDRAs: Harnessing Automation and AI to Elevate Reprocessing Performance Speaker: Chris Antonucci <u>Description:</u>

		Medical Device Reprocessing Departments (MDRDs/SPDs) are facing increasing pressure to support rising procedural volumes, maintain quality outcomes, and operate efficiently despite ongoing staffing challenges. This presentation explores how the strategic use of automation and artificial intelligence can transform reprocessing operations and empower frontline teams. We begin by examining how automation enhances productivity and safety while reducing non-value-added motion, repetitive tasks, and staff fatigue. Real-world findings—including measurable reductions in tray turnaround time, queuing, and staff travel enabled by autonomous mobile robots (AMRs)—demonstrate the significant performance gains achieved when automation complements human expertise. We then highlight the growing role of AI in reprocessing. From mining large datasets to identify optimization opportunities, to benchmarking performance across regions, to guiding staff through compliant, standardized workflows, AI delivers actionable insights that accelerate decision-making and elevate quality. These capabilities help health systems strengthen consistency, support clinical goals, and create more resilient and data-driven reprocessing environments. Together, automation and AI represent a major leap forward for MDRAs—unlocking efficiency, enhancing staff engagement, and driving sustained improvements in patient-critical processes.
15:00-15:45	Victoria 3	Learning Annexes Session 3c: Understanding Challenges Of Flexible Endoscope Internal Channel Cleaning - ~~M~~Medical device mediated infection prevention Speaker: Daniel Lightfoot <u>Description:</u> Flexible endoscopes are associated with more instrument mediated infections than any other reusable medical device. This is reflective of an inability of current reprocessing methods (both high-level disinfection and sterilization) to establish an aseptic state within these complex medical devices. The underpinning cause is biofilm, which is a persistent microbial reservoir within these medical devices, that culminates in serial patient colonization, and subsequent infections.
16:00-16:45	Victoria 1	Learning Annexes Session 4a: Driving To Zero: The Rationale For Every Load Monitoring Across Sterilization Modalities Speaker: Larry Talapa <u>Description:</u> - Review the key risks of surgical infections - Differentiate the two primary modalities of sterilization: Steam and vaporized hydrogen peroxide (VH202). - Cite the relevant AORN, ANSI/AAMI, and CSA guidelines pertaining to quality assurance monitoring across modalities. - Describe the technology behind the "king" of monitoring tools: The Biological Indicator (BI). - Explain the rationale for every load monitoring (ELM).
16:00-16:45	Victoria 2	Learning Annexes Session 4b: Inspection Trivia (with A Twist): Beyond The Obvious Speaker: Adam Okada and Michael Matthews <u>Description:</u> From everyday instruments to complex devices, effective inspection plays a vital role in ensuring patient safety. In this interactive, team based trivia challenge, you'll learn key principles of device inspection, identify hidden soil and device damage, and explore tools that support effective inspection and verification. Then, put your knowledge to the test in a fun, pub style competition. But there's a twist: each team will have a secret "spy" tasked with sabotaging responses from within. Compete for prizes, including a special prize for the most effective spy. Come sharpen your inspection skills and see if your team can uncover the hidden threat before it's too late!

16:00-16:45	Victoria 3	Learning Annexes Session 4c: Are You Safe? How Do You Know? Chemical Exposure in MDR Speaker: Alex Hilliker <u>Description:</u> Chemicals are everywhere in the MDR. Sterilants and high-level disinfectants are critical for effective reprocessing of instruments to ensure patient safety. However, overexposure to these chemical vapors can lead to both acute and chronic health risks. There is a growing international consensus around the need for short-term exposure limits, and research suggests that exposure may be more prominent than we think. This session explores the real-world exposure concerns, and how departments can mitigate those risks to ensure staff safety, compliance, and operational resilience.
17:00-17:45	Victoria 1	Learning Annexes Session 5a: Beyond Clean: The Importance Of Endoscope Drying, Care And Handling Speaker: Heather Whittemore <u>Description:</u> -review importance of drying endoscopes after HLD reprocessing. -review proper care and handling of endoscopes to reduce repairs including distal tip protection.
17:00-17:45	Victoria 2	Learning Annexes Session 5b: "What's really in the air? The truth about h202 emissions" a joint session with ASP & ChemDaq Speaker: Melanie Marshall and Alex Hilliker <u>Description:</u> What's really in the air after a hydrogen peroxide low-temperature sterilization cycle? This joint ASP and ChemDAQ session will take a closer look at hydrogen peroxide emissions and how residual H₂O₂ is broken down. Attendees will learn how different approaches to hydrogen peroxide decomposition can impact user exposure and workplace safety. The session will explore what healthcare facilities should understand when evaluating hydrogen peroxide sterilization technologies and how to recognize the factors that contribute to effective residual H₂O₂ removal. We'll also discuss practical considerations for monitoring and maintaining a safe environment for staff who work with these technologies every day. Through an educational discussion of the standards, science, technology, and safety considerations, attendees will gain a better understanding of what happens to hydrogen peroxide after a cycle is complete. Join ASP and ChemDAQ to separate fact from assumption and better understand what's really in the air.
17:00-17:45	Victoria 3	Learning Annexes Session 5c: Onetray And Medique - Fast Turning Trays Speaker: Robert Ralph and Kyle Kemp <u>Description:</u> OneTray — A New Innovation in MDR Discover OneTray, a new innovation in medical device reprocessing that is already gaining traction in some of Canada's leading MDR departments. Designed to enable faster instrument tray turnaround, OneTray offers a new approach to improving workflow efficiency and getting critical instruments back into service sooner. Learn how this emerging technology is being adopted by premier Canadian MDR teams and what it could mean for the future of instrument reprocessing.
17:45-19:00	Exhibit Hall	President's Reception

Friday October 23		
Time	Location	Session Details
09:00-10:00	Bannerman Ballroom	Breathe to Lead: Emotional Effectiveness in High-Stakes Environments Speaker: Corina Walsh <u>Description:</u> Working in a high-pressure environment where competing demands and time constraints collide can be very stressful. The emotional and physiological demands of work today can quietly challenge performance, communication, and well-being. In this engaging keynote, ICF certified Leadership coach Corina Walsh introduces a practical approach to emotional effectiveness that will help professionals in busy work environments stay calm, focused, and resilient in demanding clinical settings. Corina will explore how emotional intelligence and nervous system regulation work together to support better decision-making, clearer communication, and improved experiences at work. Participants will leave with simple, evidence-based emotional intelligence and somatic techniques that can be used during stressful moments or after challenging interactions.
10:00-11:00	Exhibit Hall	Refreshment Break
11:00-11:45	Bannerman Ballroom	Water quality - Implementing CSA Z314:23: Practical Strategies for Success Speaker: Matt Bero <u>Description:</u> Join us for an in-depth exploration of real-world experiences from those who have adopted the CSA Z314.23 standard on water processing for medical devices. We'll uncover proven strategies, common challenges, and breakthrough solutions that can help you succeed. Key discussion points include: Interpreting and applying CSA Z314.23 implementation guidelines. Selecting the right water system for your facility. Leveraging collaboration with your multi-disciplinary team focused on water quality and achieving performance goals Designed with practicality in mind, this session offers user-friendly content and lessons learned. You'll leave with clear, immediately applicable steps to streamline your implementation and optimize outcomes.
11:45-12:30	Bannerman Ballroom	CSA Approved steam quality for the sterilization process Speaker: Shahrooz Hashemian <u>Description:</u> During this session, I will discuss the steam quality requirements outlined by SCA for the sterilization process.
12:30-14:00	Exhibit Hall	Lunch Break
14:00-14:45	Bannerman Ballroom	Sterile Storage and Transport: The Final and Vital Step in Sterility Assurance Speaker: Michael Matthews <u>Description:</u> Many CSSD's do a good job emphasizing proper cleaning and detailed inspection. But what happens when we don't recognize the importance of the final steps of reprocessing? In this presentation, we'll examine some of the most common pitfalls of transportation and storage, and how fallouts during this critical step can undo all the good work that came before it.

14:45-15:30	Bannerman Ballroom	Robotics and Eschar: Keeping complex instruments clean, compliant and moving Speaker: Andrea Allen <u>Description:</u> The rapid expansion of surgical robotics has transformed minimally invasive care, but it has also introduced new challenges for medical device reprocessing departments (MDRDs) tasked with reprocessing increasingly complex, high-precision instruments. Robotic tools often accumulate stubborn bioburden—including eschar—that adheres to intricate joints, insulated surfaces, and articulating end effectors, making consistent and thorough cleaning more difficult than with traditional laparoscopic devices. As procedure volumes grow and robotic platforms become more prevalent in Canada, MDRDs must navigate evolving national guidelines and reprocessing regulations while maintaining high standards of instrument cleanliness and workflow efficiency. This session will focus on understanding the current landscape of surgical robotics in Canada, reviewing Canadian guidelines and regulatory expectations for reprocessing robotic instruments, and developing practical, evidence-based strategies that MDRDs can implement to reduce eschar-related challenges and strengthen overall reprocessing quality.
15:30-16:00	Exhibit Hall	Refreshment Break
16:00-16:45	Bannerman Ballroom	Unseen but Not Harmless! Emissions in our MDRAs Speaker: Melanie Marshall <u>Description:</u> This presentation examines the sources, types, and implications of emissions produced throughout the medical device reprocessing workflow, including cleaning, disinfection, sterilization, and drying processes. An emphasis will be placed on the physical properties of many of the chemicals used in the MDRA which can contribute to occupational harm if not properly controlled. We will examine the risks and most common types of injuries that can occur from these chemicals. The Workplace Hazardous Materials Information System guidelines and symbols will be reviewed. We will identify contributing factors such as dated practices, inadequate ventilation, improper chemical handling, aging equipment, and increased reprocessing workloads. National and international standards for workplace exposure limits will be defined and finally, the presentation will highlight practical strategies to mitigate emissions in reprocessing environments.

Saturday October 24		
Time	Location	Session Details
09:00-09:45	Bannerman Ballroom	Are You Safe? How Do You Know? Chemical Exposure in MDR Speaker: Alex Hilliker <u>Description:</u> Chemicals are everywhere in the MDR. Sterilants and high-level disinfectants are critical for effective reprocessing of instruments to ensure patient safety. However, overexposure to these chemical vapors can lead to both acute and chronic health risks. There is a growing international consensus around the need for short-term exposure limits, and research suggests that exposure may be more prominent than we think. This session explores the real-world exposure concerns, and how departments can mitigate those risks to ensure staff safety, compliance, and operational resilience.
09:45-10:30	Bannerman Ballroom	Beyond Compliance: Leadership Lessons in MDRD Design & Future Forward Opportunities Speaker: Suzanne Rhodenizer <u>Description:</u>

		This session explores what it truly means to go beyond compliance in the design and construction of Medical Device Reprocessing departments. Grounded in real-world experience, it highlights leadership lessons drawn from MDRs that have stretched capacity, exposed design gaps, and revealed opportunities for smarter, future-ready systems.
10:30-12:30	Exhibit Hall	Vendor Exhibition
12:30-13:30	Exhibit Hall	Lunch Break
13:30-14:15	Bannerman Ballroom	Building a Borescope Program: Tools, Tactics and Troubleshooting Speaker: Frank Daniels and Andy Sundet <u>Description:</u> Learn from a leading borescope departments in the United States. They didn't develop the program over night but learn from their successes and even some of their failures. The goal is to help departments start with a manageable scope, capture baseline images, prioritize high-risk devices, adjust inspection cadence based on findings, and build a repeatable system that empowers technicians, protects patients, and proves value through key metrics: inspection volume, known-bad findings, cleaning effectiveness vs. device condition, time to resolution, repeat failures, repair outcomes, infection indicators, avoided rework, and cost avoidance. •Explain hidden risks inside complex instruments. •Identify cleaning and device condition failures. •Build a scalable borescope inspection program.

14:15-15:00	Bannerman Ballroom	From Need to Investment: Building the Business Case for Medical Device Reprocessing (MDR) Growth Speaker: Marie Brewer <u>Description:</u> This session provides practical strategies for securing support and resources to expand medical device reprocessing (MDR) programs. Learn how to use the SBAR (Situation, Background, Assessment, Recommendation) model to craft persuasive business cases, identify funding opportunities, and leverage vendor and organizational resources. Attendees will gain actionable tips for aligning requests with standards, demonstrating value to stakeholders and driving sustainable MDR growth. Using evidence-based guidelines and actionable templates, attendees will gain confidence in preparing compelling proposals for equipment, training, and process improvements. The session emphasizes the importance of data-driven assessments, clear documentation, and persistent advocacy to drive sustainable MDR growth and ensure the highest standards of patient and staff safety.
15:00-15:30	Exhibit Hall	Refreshment Break
15:30-16:15	Bannerman Ballroom	Quality Improvement - Patient Perspective "The Other Side" Speaker: Stephanie Mailman-Crouse <u>Description:</u> This storytelling and reflection-based session invites attendees to step into the patient's experience of surgery, from the vulnerability of lying on the operating table to the quiet confidence that comes from knowing a dedicated team is working behind the scenes to keep them safe. In The Other Side, Stephanie Mailman-Crouse shares her unique perspective as both a patient and a healthcare quality leader in Medical Device Reprocessing (MDR). Drawing from personal experience and years of work advancing quality improvement in MDR, she explores the powerful but often unseen connection between reprocessing practices and patient trust. Through storytelling and reflection, this presentation will: - Illuminate the invisible link between high-quality reprocessing and patient peace of mind - Highlight how MDR professionals contribute to patient safety in ways that extend far beyond technical compliance -Demonstrate the real human impact of quality improvement initiatives in MDR -Inspire pride, reflection, and renewed purpose among reprocessing professionals Attendees will leave with a deeper appreciation for the profound role MDR plays in every safe and successful procedure. Though much of this work happens behind the scenes, it forms the foundation of patient safety and healing. This session is both a story and a thank-you, a reminder that excellence in MDR touches lives in deeply human ways.
18:30-19:30	Exhibit Hall	Cocktail Reception with Exhibits
19:30-23:00	Bannerman Ballroom	Good Old Fashioned Kitchen Party Banquet Dinner & Social