

2016 CAMDR Conference

The Canadian Association of Medical Device Reprocessing (CAMDR) is reminding you that the 2016 Biennial Conference, **Discover Medical Device Reprocessing**, is just three short months away!

If you haven't signed up yet – what are you waiting for?! The 2016 CAMDR Conference offers multiple learning annexes and concurrent sessions, presentations by some of the country's best featured speakers, and some dynamic international speakers. Our opening keynote speaker, **Victoria Nahum**, has worked tirelessly to bring a sharper focus on infection prevention within the American health care environment. While at the conference, visit our many exhibitor booths that will display some of the latest and greatest technologies!

The Conference will be held in Toronto, Ontario from October 13-16, 2016.

For more information about the schedule of events, the conference hotel, and to purchase your ticket, please visit the "Conference" page of our website at <http://www.camdr.ca/conference.html>.

Remember – CAMDR members get a discounted ticket price! Are you a member? **Sign up today!**

CAMDR Provincial Advisors

CAMDR is pleased to welcome three new Provincial Advisors to our team!

Nancy Aelick is the CAMDR Provincial Advisor for the province of Alberta. Please feel free to contact her at nancy.aelick@albertahealthservices.ca. Diana Villeneuve is the Advisor for Prince Edward Island and she can be reached at dmvilleneuve@ihis.org, and Thelma Floyd is the Advisor for the Yukon. Thelma can be reached at Thelma.Floyd@wgh.yk.ca.

Remember the full list of CAMDR Provincial Advisors can be found on our website at <http://www.camdr.ca/meet-provincial-advisors.html>.

Call for Nominations!

Are you an active member of CAMDR with experience and working knowledge of the practice of medical device reprocessing?

Are you familiar with and do you support CAMDR's vision and mission, as well as its goals and objectives?

Are you an excellent communicator, listener, thinker, and change agent?

If this sounds like you or someone you know, the CAMDR Nominating Committee invites you to apply for one of the following open Executive/Board of Directors positions:

President-Elect, Education Director, Vendor Director

All positions have a two-year term, with the exception of President-Elect, who will also serve a two-year term as President of the Association.

Contact CAMDR at camdr@eventsmgt.com or visit our website at www.CAMDR.ca for more information!

Nominations Deadline: August 15

Double Pouching – A National “Hot Topic”

There has been much discussion amongst CAMDR members and individual facilities concerning double peel pouching items for sterilization. There are many references available online concerning the subject.

International Association of Healthcare Central Service Material Management Recommendations

IAHCSMM's May/June 2016 Communiqué article has a “Meet the Experts” section where Mark Duro, CS Manager at New England Baptist Hospital in Boston, states that “There is nothing wrong with double peel pouching; however, in some cases, it could be wasteful. Be sure not to abuse double pouching, and limit the amount and weight of items being placed in a pouch. Also, be sure to never fold the inner pouch. With double pouching, it is important to ensure you have instructions for use (IFU) from the manufacturer, and then follow those IFU closely.”

CSA Standards Recommendations

CSA Z314.14-15 Selection and use of packaging (sterile barrier systems) in healthcare settings also has a section that references double pouching. Section 5.2 part c) states that “If double pouching has been validated by the pouch manufacturer, i) the inner pouch shall be able to move within the outer pouch; Note: This allows penetration of the sterilant and prevents pouches from sticking together during the sterilization process. ii) an inner pouch shall not be folded in order to fit into the outer pouch; Notes: 1) This will minimize stressing or damage to the inner pouch and ensure proper sterilant penetration. 2) When combining two pouches made from film and porous material it is important that film meets film and porous material meets porous material for identification of content and permeation of sterilant. iii) specified requirements for seal width and seal strength shall be met; and iv) if a heat sealer is used, it shall create at least one seal having a minimum width of 3 mm or, if the seal is less than 3 mm wide, two rows of seal shall be required.”

However, *CSA Z314.3-14 Effective sterilization in health care settings by the steam process* states in section 6.1.3 that “A wrapped or packaged item **shall** not be placed inside another package unless a) this configuration is supported by the device manufacturer (e.g., an additional protective container as specified in Clause 6.1.2); b) the internal packaging has been validated by the packaging material manufacturer; or c) the internal packaging has been validated by an external agency that performs validation.”

Clause 6.5.2 of the same standard also states that “If double-pouching is allowed (see Clause 6.1.3), a) the smaller pouch should fit inside the larger without folding or touching the outer pouch seams; and b) the pouches should be positioned so that the paper surfaces are on the same side.”

So what does all this mean?

While there is evidence to support double pouching, this practice must be validated by the manufacturer of the pouch material. We welcome your thoughts on this “Hot Topic”! Email us at camdr@eventsmgt.com.



Patient Safety Champion Award 2016

Congratulations to CAMDR's Treasurer, Gale Schultz, on winning the Patient Safety Champion Award 2016 and being recognized as a true patient safety champion!

This nomination identified Gale as “an inspiring leader within Medical Device Reprocessing (MDR) which has been instrumental in reducing the risk of patients acquiring healthcare associated infections across your region, the province and Canada”. Her passion and commitment to the best and safest practices will lead to improved patient safety.

Way to go, Gale!