

Sterilization in New South Wales

2024 JUNE

25th WFHSS
CONGRESS
SANTIAGO-CHILE | 20-23
NOVEMBER
2024



Print Post Approved
PP255003/01725

Sterilization in New South Wales

Official Journal of Sterilizing Research & Advisory Council (NSW) Inc.

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About Sterilization In Australia

Sterilization in Australia is published 3 times per year on behalf of the Sterilizing Research and Advisory Council of Australia NSW Incorporated.

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Sterilization in Australia is Print Post Approved PP255003/01725

Address all correspondence to info@sracansw.org.au

Web Address: www.sracansw.org.au

ISSN number 0725.7066

Electronic on-line version ISSN1444-8476

ABN 85 914 815 703

All advertising enquiries to:

Journal Editor

Email: info@sraca.nsw.org.au

Design By Wing Lun @ Creative Nocturnal

Email: wing@lunwing.com





PRESIDENT'S REPORT

Dear Members,

As we find ourselves already halfway through 2024, it's evident that time is flying by. The NSW State Conference, held in Coffs Harbour in March, was a resounding success thanks to the dedication of our delegates, speakers, and trade partners.

The event featured a diverse range of presentations covering crucial topics, and the trade exhibits showcased new and innovative solutions while fostering valuable networking opportunities.

Looking ahead, we're in the early planning stages for the 2025 NSW State Conference, which will take place in the Sydney Region. Stay tuned for further details as they become available.

In the coming months, the CEC Infection Prevention and Control (IPAC) and Healthcare-associated Infections (HAI) Reprocessing Advisory Committee will release several important documents. These resources are designed to support departments in meeting industry requirements and improving processes.

The forthcoming documents include:

- Standard Operating Procedure (SOP) for 'Bedside' Cleaning of Flexible Endoscopes
- Standard Operating Procedure (SOP) for Reprocessing of Flexible Endoscopes
- Guidelines for Reprocessing of Reusable Medical Devices (RMDs) on Consignment or Loan for Use in Surgical, Dental, or Other Invasive Procedures
- Safe Operating Procedure for Receipt and Dispatch of Loan Kits
- Reprocessing Competency Assessments

Once published, these documents will be accessible via our Facebook page, website, and the Member Jungle platform.

Additionally, we're actively discussing new projects, including the tracking and processing of screw and plate caddies, as well as developments in the new standards and accreditation.

Our next workshop is scheduled for December 4th at the Campbelltown Catholic Club. While we're finalising the topics and speakers, we'll promptly share the details on our website and Member Jungle app.

Looking ahead to the new year, we're considering taking our workshops regional again to ensure accessibility for all members. Stay tuned for announcements regarding dates and registration.

For those interested in upcoming conferences, the QLD SRACA Conference, themed "Voyage of Discovery," will take place from September 5th to 7th at the Pullman Hotel in Brisbane.

Visit the Events page on the QLD SRACA CONFERENCE website for further information.

Lastly, our colleagues across the ditch are celebrating a significant milestone with the NZSSA conference marking its 50th year anniversary in Auckland from September 25th to 27th.

More details can be found on the NZSSA website.

I extend my sincere thanks to all members and associate members for your unwavering support. I look forward to seeing you at the upcoming workshop.

Yours sincerely

David Bellamy

President of NSW SRACA

2024 TRADE REGISTRATION FORM

ABN: 85 914 815 703

NAME (Mr, Mrs, Ms, Miss) Stephanie Climpson
 COMPANY Medline Australia
 ADDRESS (for receipt) 2 Fairview Place
 SUBURB/TOWN Marsden Park STATE NSW POSTCODE 2765
 PHONE NO. (Work) 0408522815 MOBILE _____ FAX NO. _____
 EMAIL stephanie.climpson@medline.com

COMPANY REPRESENTATIVES BOOKINGS – SRACA ASSOCIATE MEMBERS ONLY

COMPANY REPRESENTATIVES X _____ @ \$400.00 (All-inclusive 3Day package) \$ _____
 DAY GUESTS MON ONLY – Trade evening X _____ NO COST \$ NIL
 DAY GUESTS TUE ONLY (no dinner inc.) X _____ @ \$150.00 \$ _____
 DAY GUESTS WED ONLY X _____ @ \$150.00 \$ _____
 DINNER ONLY – TUESDAY X _____ @ \$110.00 (Extra/partners price) \$ _____

TOTAL REP COST \$ _____

NAME OF ATTENDEES _____

DIETARY REQUIREMENTS (if applicable) allergies , GF, diabetics, vegan & veggie _____

COMPANY REPRESENTATIVES BOOKINGS – NON - SRACA ASSOCIATE MEMBERS

COMPANY REPRESENTATIVES X 3 @ \$450.00 (All-inclusive 3Day package) \$ **1350**
 DAY GUESTS MON ONLY – Trade evening X _____ @ \$60.00 \$ _____
 DAY GUESTS TUE ONLY (no dinner inc.) X _____ @ \$200.00 \$ _____
 DAY GUESTS WED ONLY X _____ @ \$200.00 \$ _____
 DINNER ONLY – TUESDAY X _____ @ \$160.00 (partners same price) \$ _____

TOTAL REP COST \$ 1350

NAME OF ATTENDEES Kassandra Muirhead, John Waters & Davia Turner

DIETARY REQUIREMENTS (if applicable) allergies , GF, diabetics, vegan & veggie NA

TRADE STAND BOOKINGS

COST OF TRADE BOOTH: \$1500.00 each

(approximately 3m x 2m, including booth with header board, corflute company name sign, 3 bar lighting & a 10 amp power board. Table and Chairs if required)

****Please Note**** this does **NOT** include cost of Company Representatives (see costing above).

*****REGISTRATIONS MUST BE PAID IN FULL BY 15th March, 2024**

TRADE BOOTHS – SINGLE X (quantity) 1 @ \$1500.00 \$ 1500

TOTAL REP COST \$ 2850

TOTAL PAYMENT ENCLOSED \$ _____

TOTAL PAYMENT BANK DEPOSIT \$ _____

CANCELLATION NOTE:

REGISTRANTS CANCELLING WITHIN 21 DAYS OF THE CONFERENCE WILL INCUR A \$100.00 FEE. THERE WILL BE NO REFUND FOR CANCELLATIONS MADE AFTER FRIDAY 15th March 2024.

PAYMENTS:

INTERNET: ONLINE PAYMENTS AVAILABLE ****MEMBER JUNGLE PREFERRED OPTION FOR REGISTRATIONS****

BANK DEPOSIT: E-MAIL BANK RECEIPT AND **THIS FORM** TO: lburnsie0308@gmail.com

BY MAIL: MAIL BANK RECEIPT OR CHEQUE PAYABLE TO SRACA NSW AND THIS FORM

LEANNE BURNS

12A Rickard Road
 EMPIRE BAY NSW 2250
 Mob: 0414805446

BANK DEPOSIT: SRACA NSW Inc

BSB: 032285 Account: 262958

Reference: Your Company Name

LOOKING FOR A SYSTEM THAT CAN MANAGE INSTRUMENT TRACKING, ENDOSCOPY TRACKING, INVENTORY MANAGEMENT & PREFERENCE CARDS SEAMLESSLY?



With the smart, easy to use design of our modules, information is only a click away. Integrates with **PAS, e-MR, ERP, patient billing** and sterilisation **equipment**.

Instrument tracking, developed around **compliance with AS/NZ 4187** and the new **AS/NZ 5369 2023**, provides a comprehensive suite of modules that provide guidance to staff when performing their duties ensuring the right action at the right time.

The product **journey board** provides a view of products as they move through the mandatory processes with in the SSD, highlighting **fast-track** and **priority items**.

Comprehensive reporting rounds off the system providing evidence for accreditation and audits.



Certificate III in **Sterilisation Services**

Course structure and units

This course includes 14 units. Use the links below to go to your online learning resources for each unit.

BSBFLM312	Contribute to team effectiveness
BSBINM301	Organise workplace information
CHCCOM005	Communicate and work in health or community services
CHCDIV001	Work with diverse people
BSBADM311	Maintain business resources
HLTINF001	Comply with infection prevention and control policies and procedures
HLTSTE001	Clean and disinfect reusable medical devices
HLTSTE002	Inspect and pack reusable medical devices
HLTSTE003	Sterilise loads HLTSTE004 - Manage sterile stock
HLTSTE005	Care for reusable medical devices
HLTSTE006	Chemically disinfect reusable medical devices
HLTWHS001	Participate in workplace health and safety
HLTWHS005	Conduct manual tasks safely

For full details on TAFE NSW fees and money matters please visit our website: wsi.tafensw.edu.au/fees

SRACA CONFERENCE HIGHLIGHTS

BINU THOMAS
(SSD EDUCATOR)

18 – 20 MARCH 2024 (COFFS HARBOUR)

I would like to share the valuable points noted on NSW SRACA conference from the industry experts contributing to the knowledge of a professional CSSD technician

STEAM STERILISATION "WHAT, WHY & HOW"

- Difference between sterilisation and disinfection – disinfection removes all pathogens but bacterial spores may survive. Sterilisation eradicate all pathogens including spores.
- Sterilant – Dry Saturated steam only – no other forms of steam have no capacity to sterilise.
- Stages of sterilisation –
 - o Air removal
 - o Sterilisation
 - o Drying
- Release of load – Confirm with the printout that cycle has met all the parameters compared with the cycle printout during the validation.
- Increase in cycle time (when compared with cycle time during the validation) indicates a potential leak on the steriliser. Steriliser may struggle for vacuum/pressurise chamber which in turn takes longer times.

NOVEL CLEANING METHOD FOR FLEXIBLE GI ENDOSCOPES

The presenter claimed that the

- manual cleaning of endoscopes has loose ends
 - o operator incompetency
 - o cross – contamination by cleaning all channels in the same cleaning solution
 - o dried bio-film
- **A sales attempt** – An equipment connected to the scope for flushing would assist with the manual cleaning of scope effectively to overcome the barriers in effective cleaning.

The presenter demonstrated a video tutorial of the equipment which appeared to us as

- detergent is pumped to all endoscope channels
- distal tip is connected to the drain directly
- several shots of (Enzymes in the detergent) pass through the channels and removes bio-film.

BIO CLINICAL SERVICES – TRADE SESSION

Bio Clinical Services provide online document services for Health organisations.

Documents/Services include:

- IFU for RMDs – No need to keep in paper form or folder.
- Operating Instructions
- Manuals
- Cleaning and Sterilising Instructions
- User guides • Pocket reference documents
- Product recalls/Alerts
- In-Service Videos

It's up to the management to decide whether we buy it or not. Cost \$3500

WATER SAMPLING & TEST METHODOLOGY FOR AS5369 COMPLIANCE

Table 7.2 – SSD Final rinse water testing

Table 7.3 – Final rinse water for processing thermolabile endoscopes

Table 7.4 – Steriliser feed water testing.

- > Monitor trend whether the values are gradually increasing.
- > Preferably aim for TVC – less than 50 cfu (colony forming unit) – standard says 100 cfu for table 7.2
- > Similarly, aim for TVC – less than 5 cfu for table 7.3 – Standard says 10 cfu

Do's and Don'ts for sampling TVC (Total Viable Count) and Endotoxin

- Don't take sample directly after a thermal disinfection cycle – allow at least 24 hours
- Don't take sample directly after endotoxin filter has been replaced.
- Don't take water sample directly after RO water plant service.
- Monthly water sampling to monitor bacterial persistence.
- Use NATA accredited lab provided containers.

The presenter run out of time and the rest of the presentation was a quick slide show (we couldn't catchup)

THE IMPORTANCE OF POINT OF USE CLEANING & APPLICATION PROCESSES

The point of use cleaning specified in AS 5369 standards and Acorn Standards 2023. The dwell time is calculated from the time, the RMD start to use for a surgery.

Point of use cleaning sometimes not happens due to;

- Lack of time
- Belief that it is CSSD Technician's job
- Lack of training and education
- No set ups for cleaning
- Staff shortages

Point of use cleaning have numerous benefits include

- Improve life span of equipment
- Prevent drying of blood and soil
- Improve condition of the equipment and avoid failures.
- Easy cleaning for CSSD staff
- Improved cleaning efficacy of devices.
- Reduce turnaround times – for fast tracked items.
- Increased productivity.

A sales attempt – The presenter recommends the use of a pre-clean spray which is common in small spray cans – time consuming

Or

An equipment loaded with 5L can of chemical which generates foam to spray on used instrument trays easily to avoid blood and soil from drying.

The presenter claims that this process is quicker and will cover 10 trays in 2-3 minutes.

Both of the above would prevent blood and soil gets dried out and enhance cleaning of the RMDs even on delayed transportation to SSD for reprocessing and on after-hours use of RMDs.

THE VALIDATION PUZZLE

Presented different types of validations

IQ – During the installation of the equipment – Checks the installation requirements of the equipment passes – like water supply, electricity, environmental requirements etc. done only once

OQ – During the installation of the equipment – Checks whether the operation of the equipment confirms to the relevant standards. done only once

PQ – During the installation of the equipment – Checks whether the equipment cycles are performing according the standards. done only once

Requalification – PQ for every cycle done yearly in reference to IQ, OQ and PQ.

Hospital to keep all the reports

DOES CHEMICAL PASSIVATION OF STAINLESS-STEEL SURGICAL INSTRUMENTS FACILITATE CLEANING?

Reusable Medical Devices often come into contact with bodily fluids and sterilisation methods. Passivation creates a protective layer on the surface preventing corrosion and ensuring the device's longevity. A passivated RMD maintains its integrity, eliminating the risk of contamination and potential harm to patients.

- Passivation is a widely-used metal finishing process to prevent corrosion.
- In stainless steel, the passivation process uses nitric acid or citric acid to remove free iron from the surface.
- The chemical treatment leads to a protective oxide layer, or passivation film, that is less likely to chemically react with air and cause corrosion.

- Passivated stainless steel resists rust
- Yes, according to the presenter passivation won't affect cleaning of the instruments.
- Use of metal brushes not recommended for the cleaning of RMDs

THE FUTURE OF ROBOTICS IN CSSD

The presenter demonstrated the use of robotic technology in CSSD activities

- Loading and unloading of WD trolleys
- Reduce operator manual handling
- Reduce operator fatigue.

What we found is the robotic equipment will take a lot of space for

- Equipment charging dock
- Turning radius

The equipment is installed in Royal Hobart Hospital in Tasmania.

The presenter welcomed anyone who visit TAS to go RHH to have a look.

OPTIMUM RESULTS IN THE CLEANING OF RMD'S WITH THE RIGHT COMBINATION OF ACTIVE INGREDIENTS

Types of detergents

- Neutral – enzymatic and non-enzymatic – High material compatibility – less effective cleaning (according to the presenter) – suitable for WDs + Manual cleaning
- Mild alkaline – enzymatic detergents – Moderate material compatibility – suitable for WDs + manual cleaning
- Alkaline detergents – Low material compatibility – suitable for WDs – Not suitable for manual cleaning.

Selection of detergents – what to consider

- Compatibility – detergent must be compatible to most/all RMDs in the facility as per IFU.
- Consumption – Dosage requirements – less dosage less chemical change overs and potential cost benefits
- Cost – Cost of running a cycle considering the dosage requirements

Ingredients of detergents

- Surfactants – allow the detergent to mix well into water helping cleaning agents to remove dirt from surface being cleaned
- Enzymes – Catalysts that increase the number of chemical reactions to break down the soil

OTHER POINTS

- ✓ Mildly alkaline enzymatic formulations are recommended by the presenter as it removes blood at moderate temperatures while still provide a good material compatibility and most economic option (considering the energy costs savings on cycle operating at lower temperatures)

✓ High alkaline detergents remove blood efficiently at elevated temperatures, however sensitive materials are damaged due to harsh chemistry, energy costs higher.

✓ Neutral cleaners with or without enzymes do not provide a comparable cleaning performance under the same conditions, longer cleaning time necessary to obtain the desired results, not economic.

BIOFILMS AND DO THEY INTERFERE WITH REPROCESSING OF RMD

Presenter claims:

- Microbes can survive for extended periods in a desiccated state on dry hospital surfaces, and biofilms have recently been discovered on dry hospital surfaces
- New research to be conducted to develop new chemical formulations to remove biofilm formation on dry hospital surfaces and surfaces of RMDs.
- New research for rapid cleanliness and cleaning monitoring both LAB field work using ATP, FM and other protein measures.
- New research on rapid instrument cleanliness monitoring with rapid ATP (the source of energy for use and storage at the cellular level)
- Post cleaning monitoring for rapid biofilm detection.
- Project examining the risk modalities for different methods of reprocessing for RMDs

SPECIFIC INFORMATIONS FROM OUR SUPPLIERS

- Diateg Insulation check in our SSD – Laparoscopic instruments fully assembled to test.
- GKE tray internal indicators can be used as usual (no need of sticking on the tray liner)
- Amy posted pictures of brushes (MS teams) and one hard nylon brush on trial in decon.

Sterilisation Services Department | Wollongong Hospital | 22 March 2024

SRACA CONFERENCE HIGHLIGHTS

18 – 20 MARCH 2024 (COFFS HARBOUR)

BREAKING OUT OF YOUR SHELL

2024 SRACA NSW STATE CONFERENCE

BY MIGU MATHEW

The 2024 SRACA NSW State Conference, themed "Breaking Out of Your Shell", took place from March 18th to 20th at Opal Cove Resort in Coffs Harbour. The event saw over 250 attendees and 28 trade partners. In-vitro Technologies served as the Gold Sponsor, supported by Ecolab and Bio Clinical Services as Silver Sponsors, and Emery Industries, ASP, CKE, and Precision Medical as Bronze Sponsors.



On Monday evening, March 18th, 2024, registration began at 4:00 PM with SRACA NSW committee members Leanne Burns, Tracey Worthington, Heather Crofts, Anu Chennamatteam and Amy Lochhead. Attendees received gift bags



containing items like a handbag, bottle, lunchbox, highlighter and more. At 6:00pm, SRACA Secretary Kim Beard hosted a warm introductory speed dating session. During the half-hour in the trade hall, attendees engaged in knowledge exchange and discussions on new



technologies crucial for staff and patient safety, while enjoying wines, beers, soft drinks, and canapés. Master of Ceremonies Andrew Bailey later led a fun Speed Dating game, fostering a sense of community among all attendees.

On Tuesday morning, March 19th, 2024, from 8:00 to 8:45am, attendees had breakfast with trade partners. At 8:45am, SRACA NSW President David Bellamy officially opened the conference. The first speaker, Julianne Schipelliti, a Director from Proline Medical Pty Ltd discussed "Steam Sterilisation: What, Why & How". Topics included differences between disinfection and sterilisation, steam sterilisation principles, interpreting cycle printouts, and using biological and chemical indicators. The session also covered steam purity testing and included interactive demonstrations. The session included interactive elements, such as demonstrating how downward pressure can eliminate contaminants.





Jon Burbach, Chief Medical Affairs and Scientific Officer at Nanoionics Infection Prevention for Life Ltd, delivered a presentation titled "Novel Cleaning Method for Flexible GI Endoscopes". He discussed factors affecting proper cleaning, including water quality, dried biofilm, and cross-contamination risks. He introduced new equipment that connects directly to scopes for more effective manual cleaning. This equipment pumps detergent through all channels, connects the distal tip to a drain, and uses enzymes to remove biofilm.

At 10:00am, attendees enjoyed morning tea and explored the Trade area to gather information and discover innovations. SRACA organized a Treasure Hunt with numbered shells for a prize token. From 10:30 to 11:00am, Bio Clinical Services hosted a session on their online document services for health organizations, covering IFUs, manuals, cleaning instructions, user guides, and product recall alerts, with in-service training videos.



At 11:00am, attendees reconvened in the hall for the third presentation on "Self-Wellbeing & Human Factors" by Ryan Thomas, Program Lead for Human Factors at the Clinical Excellence Commission. Ryan explored the concept of human factors and its critical relevance in healthcare settings. He also introduced a comprehensive human factors framework widely adopted across healthcare sectors, demonstrating its practical application through a case study analysis.

The next presentation, "The Importance of Point of Use Cleaning & Application Process", was given by Bella Tong, NSW Territory Sales Manager from Invitro. Bella discussed the benefits of point of use cleaning per AS 5369 and Acorn Standards 2023. These benefits include extending equipment lifespan, preventing the drying of blood and soil, improving equipment condition, avoiding failures, easing cleaning for CSSD staff, enhancing cleaning efficacy, reducing turnaround times for fast-tracked items, and increasing productivity. She recommended using a pre-clean spray, even though it can be time-consuming.



At 12:00pm, attendees enjoyed lunch and trade raiding again. From 1:00 to 2:00pm, In-Vitro Technologies showcased SteelcoData, a system providing machine status overviews, interfacing with instrument tracking systems, and generating performance reports. SteelcoData also enables remote service, reducing downtime and speeding up machine recovery.

At 2:00pm, Andrew Bailey announced the treasure hunt winners before Laina Coffey, Validation Manager from Getinge, presented "The Validation Puzzle". Laina covered the three stages: Installation Qualification (IQ), Operational Qualification (OQ), and Performance Qualification (PQ). IQ checks installation requirements like water supply and electricity. OQ ensures equipment meets operational standards, and PQ verifies that equipment cycles perform according to standards.



The sixth presentation, "Does Chemical Passivation of Stainless-Steel Surgical Instruments Facilitate Cleaning?" was delivered by Ben Siegmund, International Sales Manager from Borer Advanced Cleaning Solutions. Ben emphasized the benefits of deep cleaning and passivation in enhancing instrument maintenance, improving patient safety, and reducing repair costs.

Following afternoon tea, the seventh presentation started at 4:00 pm with Roel Castillo, CSSD Manager, addressing "Preparing the Next Generation of Sterilising Leaders". He discussed daily operational challenges and emphasized five critical practices for healthcare leaders: recognizing and retaining talent, navigating constant change, understanding healthcare business dynamics, prioritizing patient outcomes, and continuous professional development.



Before the conference dinner, Simon VanDeKruik, Clinical Specialist from SVA, presented "Lessons Learned about Decontamination - Protein Quantification". Simon discussed protein definitions, minimum requirements for Annual Performance Qualification in washer-disinfector cleaning efficacy, quantification methods, the importance of protein quantification, barriers to protein removal in CSSD, and characteristics of instruments that retain protein.

The dinner party started at 6:30pm with everyone dressed in vibrant Hawaiian attire, including beautiful flower lei necklaces. The atmosphere was lively and casual, emphasizing mingling and socializing over trade discussions. Guests enjoyed the Photo Booth, hula hooping, Jenga on the deck, and dancing—a fantastic evening of fun and camaraderie.

On Wednesday morning, March 20th, 2024, from 8:00 to 8:30am, breakfast with the trade was followed by the first presentation, "LTFS: The Optimal Complementary Technology to VH2O2", by Elena Lorenzo Marfil, IPC and MIEC Global Manager from Matachana Group. Elena discussed LTFS and VH2O2 low-temperature sterilization technologies, highlighting their role in terminal sterilization of endoscopes and heat-sensitive medical devices, meeting AS 5369 standards.





The second presentation, "The Future of Robotics in CSSD", by Ashish Bhatia and Jean Danre, Sales Managers from Atherton Empowering Healthcare, introduced collaborative robots (Cobots) as the future of CSSDs. These robots handle heavy goods transport, allowing staff to focus on essential tasks like cleaning and packing. Operating independently, Cobots ensure efficient 24/7 operation. The Royal Hobart Hospital is the first in Australia to install a Steam Sterilizer Cobot, making it a prime site to witness this innovative technology in action.

The third presentation, titled "Optimum Results in the Cleaning of RMDs with the Right Combination of Active Ingredients", was delivered by Lauren Kontus, Sales and Contract Manager from GKE Cleaning and Sterilisation Monitoring. Lauren emphasised the effectiveness of mildly alkaline enzymatic formulations in efficiently removing blood at moderate temperatures while maintaining excellent material compatibility. This approach proves to be the most economical option, delivering efficiency with minimal energy costs.



The NSW SRACA Annual General Meeting commenced at 10:00am. During the meeting, all members present voted David Bellamy as President, Leanne Burns as Treasurer, and Kim Beard as Secretary, who all accepted their roles. Additionally, Tracey Worthington, Anu Chennamatteam, Heather Crofts, and Amy Lochhead were confirmed as committee members. The committee also welcomed new members Migu Mathews and Millie Truong.

At 10:00am, morning tea began, allowing everyone to visit the final Trade exhibits. From 10:30 to 11:00am, Benoit Kergrohen, Development Manager at Ecolab for Belimed, showed a trade session titled "Need New Washers? How to Choose Wisely?" This session was aimed at new CSSD managers, offering guidance on selecting new washers for CSSD during refurbishments or redevelopments.



At 11:30am, Dr Greg Whiteley, Executive Chairman of Whiteley Corporation, presented on "Biofilms and Their Impact on RMD Reprocessing." He explained that frequent endoscope uses increases biofilm accumulation, damaging endoscope channels. Bacteria in dry surface biofilms resist disinfection and sterilization, requiring their removal beforehand for



Dr. Surani McCaw, Technical Director of Healthcare at Southland Filtration, presented on "Water Sampling & Test Methodology for AS5369 Compliance." She covered optimal sampling points, key testing parameters, frequency recommendations, and correct methodologies for ensuring water quality compliance.



Heather Crofts, Sterilisation and Infection Control Coordinator at Nepear Centre for Oral Health, presented "Getting Dental over the Line". She emphasised key strategies: seeking colleague support for answers, maintaining thorough documentation, methodically advancing, ensuring auditors access correct advisories, and highlighting the crucial role of the LHD and NSW SRACA committee in achieving compliance.

The latest presentation, titled "Six Sigma Approach to SSD Problems", was delivered by Michelle Odayan, Scientific Affairs and Education Manager at 3M. This aims to implement the Six Sigma DMAIC methodology to minimize reprocessing cycles, streamline inspection and packing tasks, enhance patient safety, and prevent infections related to surgical implants such as screws and plates.



The conference wrapped up around 2:00pm with the completion and collection of evaluation forms, followed by the drawing of scholarships for the next conference, trade raffle draws, and lucky door prize giveaways. It was a resounding success, providing a unique opportunity for us to come together, expand our knowledge, exchange ideas, and stay updated on new and emerging technologies crucial for ensuring staff and patient safety.



A heartfelt thank you to the NSW SRACA committee and Master of Ceremonies Andrew Bailey for hosting such an outstanding conference!



Expression of interest for The Sterilizing Industry

APPLYING FOR A RESEARCH GRANT

Federation Sterilizing Research Advisory Council of Australia invite all financial members of SRACA to apply for a research grant of up to \$1400.00

This package includes

- Information
- Guidelines
- Application form

You can request your package from your State Secretary, or download from your State or Federal website.

Information

Purpose

To provide financial assistance, to promote research and develop skills to ensure the sterilizing industry is contributing to quality patient care.

Value

Maximum \$1,400.00

Guideline

1. Selection criteria

Financial assistance will be considered for projects which would be relevant and beneficial to both the applicant and those involved in the field of sterilization.

2. Eligibility

- Highly developed written and oral skills
- State SRACA membership number and proof you are a current active member.

2. Eligibility (con.)

- Be a full member of a state SRACA and have been a member of a state SRACA for a minimum of two years immediately prior to submitting an application.
- Be currently employed in the field of sterilization and have been employed in the field of sterilization for a minimum of two years immediately prior to submitting an application
- Has attended SRACA meetings and educational activities during the two years immediately prior to submitting an application.
- Be actively involved in his/her state SRACA. Active involvement is considered to include but is not limited to:
 - Willingness to serve on SRACA committee or sub-committee
 - Promotion of SRACA activities
- Applicants shall submit information about any application for funding from an alternative source/s for the same purpose.
- Only one research grant will be awarded annually.

3. Application Guidelines

- Application forms are available from both FSRACA and SRACA State secretaries
- Applicants should submit a completed type written application form
- Comprehensive Curriculum Vitae, which show details of work and education qualifications.
- Full details of the project, including the objectives, the methodology of the research, the outcome and how the research can enhance sterilization and the estimated or actual budget.
- The proposed project must have commenced within 12 months from receipt of the research grant.
- Within four weeks of completing the research project the recipient will need to submit a type written report outlining the project
- The recipient of a FSRACA grant shall: Be prepared to speak on the funded project at FSRACA and/or SRACA meetings, conferences or workshops
- The report may be published in the "Sterilization in Australia" Journal or in an appropriate national professional Journal at the discretion of the editor.
- The recipient will submit progress reports to FSRACA if requested to do so.
- Papers and reports shall not be returned to the grant recipient by FSRACA committee.
- Projects involving human bioethics shall show proof of permission by the people and/or organization's concerned.
- The grant may fund all or part of the project
- The grant will be available only once to any individual.

4. Selection

- Completed application forms together with all supporting documentation shall be submitted to the Secretary of the state SRACA of which the applicant is a member, by 31 December each year.
- The state SRACA committee will determine whether eligibility requirements (as set out in this document) have been met.
- All applications will be forwarded by SRACA to the FSRACA Secretary together with a State committee recommendation.

5. Publication

Grant recipients shall retain copyright of all papers /reports submitted to FSRACA

6. Financial Considerations

- Applicant shall submit a statement of proposed expenditure for the proposed project.
- FSRACA committee reserves the right to cancel the grant and request return of any monies granted should the recipient fail to pursue the purpose for which the grant was awarded.

- The applications shall be assessed at a meeting of the FSRACA committee.
- The decision of FSRACA committee shall be final and binding on all matters.
- Confidentiality of the selection process shall be upheld by all those involved.
- The names of successful applicants, together with an outline of project and funds granted, will be published in the minutes of FSRACA meeting.

7. Alternative Funding

- FSRACA financial grants are conditioned upon the applicant informing FSRACA at any time should funding received exceed the total cost of the project.
- FSRACA committee reserves the right to request the return of monies over and above full funding.

Application Form (Applicant)

Title Ms, Miss, Mrs, Mr., Dr (Please circle your title)	Surname	Given Name
Address		
Email		
Current Occupation		Phone
Amount of Funding requested \$		Years of experience
I have/have not made application to alternative sources for funding YES / NO		
If YES from whom and what support has been requested/granted		
If funding is granted, I agree to abide by the terms and Conditions of FSRACA "Guidelines for Financial Grants"		
Signature		Date



Application Form (Office use only)

Received by	State SRACA Secretary on (Date)
<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>

State SRACA comments regarding eligibility (as per financial grant guidelines)

Signed	Position	Date
<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>

Received by FSRACA Secretary on	Date
<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>

Presented to FSRACA meeting on	Date
<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>

FSRACA Action:

Signed	Position	Date
<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>

- Attachments
- Current SRACA Membership
 - 2 x Professional Referees
 - Budget Plan
 - Curriculum Vitae
 - Proposed Project

Applicant	<input type="text"/>	1= Criteria not met 5= Criteria fully met
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Application Form (Criteria Rating Comment)

1. Documentary evidence. (Circle correct answer)
- Current membership and active member State group YES / NO
 - Two relevant references supplied YES / NO
 - Curriculum Vitae supplied YES / NO
 - Project details YES / NO
 - Budget Plan YES / NO
2. Essential Qualifications supplied YES / NO
3. Communication skills
- Written 1 , 2, 3, 4, 5
 - Oral 1, 2, 3, 4, 5

Summary

Approved / not approved (Circle the correct answer)

Amount granted

\$

Signature	Date
<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>

CAMPBELLTOWN WORKSHOP

2023

TRACEY WORTHINGTON
SRACA NSW EDUCATION OFFICER



Represented by the Australian distributor:



SRACA NSW was pleased to present their last workshop for 2023 at the Campbelltown Catholic Club on 6th December

Andrea Baldwin and Stephanie Duliessie from Medical & Optical kindly facilitated a combination of workbook presentation and tabletop activities based on the manufacture, care & handling of stainless steel medical devices

The workshop was attended by 43 delegates from near & far, all eager to learn how the surgical instruments we handle in our workplace every day are manufactured & how best to care for them

It was interesting to learn that 80% of instruments are still manufactured by hand. Beginning with raw rolled steel of which a blank piece is cut, followed by many, many steps to end with a smooth and annealed finish – ready for use in surgical procedures

We learned that stainless steel contains iron which is prone to rust, caused by chemical attack. Treatment of all new instruments is required to remove free Fe from the surface and provide a protective layer to reduce chemical reactions on the instrument surface. An acid solution and multiple (suggested 3)

processes through the washer/disinfector is recommended – this is called 'passivation' and it creates a protective layer to the instrument and increases resistance to corrosion

The importance of correct storage was also discussed; removal of new instruments from packaging to reduce the risk of condensation forming within the pack – this can also cause rust and corrosion of unused instruments

Finally, the correct pre-treatment of new instruments can be compromised if they are not decontaminated, packed and sterilised with care. Instruments must be protected between uses in the surgical setting. Damaged and corroded instruments should be removed from the instrument tray; instruments should be packed in a way to protect them. The tabletop workshop provided options for best instrument care

As always, the venue provided friendly service and great food

A special thank you to the SRACA NSW Committee and Medical & Optical for providing the equipment for this valuable and successful workshop

No. 1
in reprocessing
medical devices.

For every challenge Dr. Weigert can offer individual solutions – on this occasion neodisher® concepts and process chemicals guarantee first class results and the longevity of high-quality instruments.

www.drweigert.com



DELEGATE INVITATION

VOYAGE OF DISCOVERY

**SRACA QLD 2024
CONFERENCE**

DATE
5th to 7th
September 2024

ADDRESS
PULLMAN HOTEL
Corner ANN & ROMA
St, BRISBANE 4000

SRACA QLD	Any STATE SRACA MEMBER	NON- SRACA Member- Working CSD	Associate / Trade SRACA Member	Associate / Trade NON- Member
Full CONFERENCE - Thursday 5th, Friday 6th & Saturday 7th September 2024 <u>DINNER - NOT INCLUDED</u>	\$290.00 Early Bird price <u>After 5th August \$310</u>	\$400.00	\$340.00	\$400.00
Friday DINNER "PIRATES"	\$50.00	\$100.00	\$75.00	\$125.00
Friday Dinner Guest	\$100.00	\$125.00	\$125.00	\$125.00
Thursday ONLY	\$90.00	\$90.00	\$90.00	\$90.00
Friday Conference ONLY	\$200.00	\$250.00	\$220.00	\$275.00
Saturday ONLY	\$150.00	\$200.00	\$180.00	\$225.00



Notification in writing of NON-attendance MUST be provided to the SRACA email treasurer.sraca@gmail.com 7days prior to the start of the conference, for refund of payment.

ECOLAB
PROTECTING WHAT'S VITAL™

SUSTAINABLE HOSPITAL SOLUTIONS

The partnership between Ecolab and Belimed is committed to driving forward energy efficient and sustainable solutions focused on:



PLEASE SPEAK TO YOUR HEALTHCARE MANAGER ON **1300 425 529** FOR FURTHER INFORMATION

ECOLAB HEALTHCARE ANZ
2 Drake Avenue, Macquarie Park, NSW 2113
T: 1300 425 529 www.healthcare-au.ecolab.com

Belimed
Infection Control



JOIN NEW MEMBERSHIP OR RENEWAL ONLINE

join or renewing
membership through the
member jungle website

<https://sraacan.memberjungle.com/membership>

Full Member

Meaning persons, excluding associate members, who accept the intent of the Constitution and the by-laws of the Council and are employed within the fields of sterilization and disinfection by any hospital, nursing home, medical, dental, or veterinary practice, university, government or semi-government organization, who are admitted by the Council and who have paid the Annual Subscription. These persons have full voting rights and shall be eligible to hold office.

Associate Member

Meaning any proprietors, members or employees of a business or advisory body who are engaged in the production or supply of goods and/or services, directly/ or indirectly associated with sterilization, disinfection, or infection control who are admitted by the Council and who have paid the Annual Subscription. These persons shall have no voting rights and shall not be eligible to hold office.

Membership Fee

FULL Membership renewal includes Journal - \$50.00

NEW Membership includes Journal & Joining fee \$50.00 + \$5.00 Joining fee

ASSOCIATE Membership includes Journal - \$50.00

SUBSCRIPTION to Journal only (Overseas incl. postage) - \$60.00

Memberships are GST Exempt

Annual Subscription will be due for renewal each July

new to join?

▼ **Select a Membership Level**

Full Member

Associate Member

REGISTER

! **Fill out Your Details,**

Member Postal Address

**Workplace / Organization
Name and Address**

SUBMIT

**already a
member?**

LOG IN

PAY MEMBERSHIP FEE

Please note registrations are not complete until you have completed payment.

Values and Recognition Award 2023

SRACA NSW knows how good it feels to recognise a member who has made an exceptional contribution. Their work or actions have made a significant difference in our industry. SRACA NSW are all aware of the fabulous work Sterilising personnel do that many times goes unappreciated. This annual recognition is an opportunity to share and appreciate some of the exceptional sterilising personnel we have in our state. SRACA NSW invites members to nominate a colleague or even yourself for this prestigious award, with the endorsement of the Manager, Staff Supervisor or Team Leader.

The winner of the Values and Recognition award will be announced at the annual NSW SRACA Conference.

Nominations are now open and all submissions to include the application as well as being able to demonstrate one or more of the following values:

Adaptability

Someone who demonstrates flexibility in the workplace and has the ability to respond effectively to work conditions even if when things don't go to plan. This is someone who is adaptable, continually learns and embraces change.

Collaboration

Collaborating with team members and stakeholders to build effective working relationships to achieve better work outcomes

Engagement

Someone who cares and respects the department goals and values. They actively participates in quality projects, team activities and meetings

Excellence

To foster a culture where pride and high performance in the work place is valued, nurtured and celebrated.

Innovation

The individual uses their skills at all levels to develop their knowledge, experience and creativity to its fullest extent to improve the service and processes on a continuous basis.

Problem Solving

Someone who has the ability to identify a problem and contribute to risk assessment, evaluation and solutions.

Conditions of Entry

1. Entry is now open and all nominations must be received by close of business 12th November 2021
2. Nominations to be sent to NSW SRACA secretary
3. Nomination to include an application form, that can be found on the NSW SRACA website <https://www.sracansw.org.au/>
4. Tell us in no more than 500 words how you or the nominee demonstrate or promotes each of the values in the course of your work.
5. Nominee must be a current financial member of NSW SRACA.
6. Nomination to be endorsed by the manager, direct supervisor or team leader.
7. Each member can only nominate the same member once in a calendar year.

Review Process

Each nomination will be de-identified by the secretary and president from the committee by a number system to prevent any bias.

Each submission is reviewed by the committee against the above criteria

Winner will be announced at the NSW SRACA yearly conference or in the event no conference it will be announced at end of year workshop

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Prize

The winner of the NSW SRACA Values and Recognition award will receive:

- A Glass Trophy
- All expenses paid to attend the Federation Sterilising Research Councils of Australia National Conference.
- Feature article in the NSW SRACA journal

NSW SRACA 2024 Event Calendar

- Important Date
- Meeting
- Workshop

JAN | **Wednesday 17th**
 ■ Planning Day- Campbelltown Hospital

FEB | **Wednesday 17th**
 ■ Executive Meeting- 5pm Northmead Sports Club

MAR | **Wednesday 6th**
 ■ Executive Meeting
 10am Microsoft Teams

Wednesday 18th
 ■ 20th NSW SRACA Conference-
 "Breaking out of your Shell"
 Coffs Harbour

Wednesday 20th
 ■ Executive Meeting
 10am Microsoft Teams

APR | **Monday 10th**
 ■ World CSSD Open Day
 ■ Executive Meeting
 10am Microsoft Teams

MAY | **Wednesday 8th**
 ■ Executive Meeting
 10am Microsoft Teams

JUN | **Wednesday 5th**
 ■ Executive Meeting
 - 5pm Northmead Sports Club

Sunday 30th
 ■ Journal 1 Distributed

JUL | **Wednesday 3rd**
 ■ Executive Meeting
 10am Microsoft Teams

AUG | **Wednesday 7th**
 ■ Executive Meeting
 10am Microsoft Teams

SEP | **Wednesday 4th**
 ■ Executive Meeting
 - 5pm Northmead Sports Club

OCT | **Wednesday 5th**
 ■ Executive Meeting
 10am Microsoft Teams

NOV | **Wednesday 6th**
 ■ Executive Meeting
 - 5pm Northmead Sports Club

20th-23rd
 ■ 22nd WFHSS Congress
 Santiago, Chile

DEC | **Wednesday 4th**
 ■ NSW SRACA Workshop
 Topic TBA
 Sydney (Campbelltown)

■ General Meeting
 & Christmas Lunch

Sunday 31st
 ■ Journal 2 Distributed

Thank you and wishing everyone a Happy & Safe Holidays

Note: Dates & times are subject to change

