



Hello, I beg your time to introduce ourselves to you. We are the Medical Device Reprocessing Association of Ontario and represent the Medical Device Reprocessing Technicians working in various Health Care settings in Ontario. These include hospitals, Doctor's offices, dental clinics, and, foot care clinics etc.

Medical Device Reprocessing is a vocation that is often forgotten but a very vital service. A MDR Technician needs to complete a course and exam to qualify to do this job and are encouraged to take refresher courses and exams every five years to remain current on CSA standards as well as being aware of other different documents; for example, manufacturer's instructions, guidelines from provincial health agencies, Health Canada standards and best practices.

It is a very complex job that begins with soiled equipment being received in the decontamination room. Items are sorted by the technician, inspected, disassembled, decontaminated and disinfected both manually and mechanically. On the clean or processing side items are then inspected, assembled, tested. They are then either High level disinfected or assembled in trays. These items are then packaged and either low temperature or steam sterilized and stored for use. These Items and trays are then distributed throughout the health care facility to where they are required.

The MDRD is working in the background to stop the spread of pathogens including the corona virus throughout our health care facilities. The work is easily forgotten but, remains a very vital service.

There is not one piece of reusable medical equipment that does not go through this procedure. Not even a urinal, bed pan, or wash basin. You cannot perform any surgery or even stitch a cut without a Medical Device Reprocessing Department or a Medical Device Reprocessing Technician having worked on the equipment. And this now extends to disinfecting N95 masks in our low temperature sterilizers throughout Ontario. The MDRD at Mount Sinai Hospital in Toronto was asked to become the hub in the downtown Toronto area for N95 reprocessing because of their Gold Standard in reprocessing. As a matter of fact, there have been numerous slogans passed around about us, for example, "MDR Technicians, you can't operate without us" or "Nobody knows what we do until we don't do it."

On April 25, 2020 the Premier of Ontario, the Honourable Doug Ford, announced the pandemic wage hike of \$4.00 per hour for a list of workers in the Health Care settings.

I sincerely hope that we are not a forgotten service and receive this premium for the vital services we have been, and continue, performing during this pandemic.

Further information on our association and profession can be obtained by visiting our web site at [WWW.MDRAO.CA](http://WWW.MDRAO.CA)

On behalf of the MDRAO I thank you kindly for your time.  
Yours truly,

Jeffrey Phelps CD, CMDRT  
President, MDRAO