2023 FSRACA NATIONAL CONFERENCE

9-11 AUGUST 2023 CENTREPIECE AT MELBOURNE PARK, VICTORIA



A Unique Position

Andrew Ellis (SA)

SA Health's Communicable Disease Control Branch established an ongoing expert role to coordinate RMD reprocessing compliance across all state government health services, and to investigate and advise on reprocessing incidents and risks. As accreditation and national standards have developed over the years, a number of challenges have arisen in reprocessing at each unique reprocessing site in SA. Facility upgrades, workforce capacity and instrument tracking are common issues that require advocacy, support and coordination. Lessons learned from the floor are central to solving these.

This role also supports the Health Facility Licensing Unit in regulating private hospitals and day surgeries across the state. Here, a career in RMD reprocessing has found another calling amidst a legal framework involving investigations, inspections and research. Challenges in this space include responsibility for approving the opening of new facilities, navigating project teams and adapting policies and regulations that govern RMD reprocessing in all private facilities, from office based to cutting edge new facilities.

RMD reprocessing needs to be represented in all these areas and more. South Australia has developed a solution that provides a rewarding career opportunity as well as a voice on the importance of our work.