

2023 FSRACA NATIONAL CONFERENCE

9–11 AUGUST 2023
CENTREPIECE AT
MELBOURNE PARK, VICTORIA

OUR TEAMS
KICKING GOALS

Annual audits kick goals with sustained AS/NZS4187:2014 compliance improvement

Lesley Lewis (VIC) & Kim Comensoli (VIC)

Background: Compliance auditing is a valuable quality process that is also a mandatory requirement of Standard 3 (3.17) of the NSQHS national standards.

Objective: The Rural Infection Control Practice Group (RICPRAC) have offered an annual sterilization compliance audit in regional Victoria since 2006 with between 33-45 health services participating.

Procedure / Methods: The annual RICPRAC compliance audit is a voluntary and internal quality activity. Facilities complete the audit using the RICPRAC audit tool and submit audit data to RICPRAC for analysis and reporting. RICPRAC provides a comparative benchmark report showing the deidentified compliance rate of each facility and lists trends with the same non compliance in multiple facilities.

Results / Discussion: Outcomes of the RICPRAC AS/NZS4187:2014 compliance audit project are: The development and implementation of a standardised audit tool. Sustained compliance improvement from 78.4% in 2016 to 93.7% in 2022. The development of reports that allow facilities to compare compliance rates. Documented evidence that supports funding submissions. Quality evidence with comparison with other facilities that can be presented during accreditation.

Key Learning Outcomes: Conducting annual audits is a valuable activity that can show what is done well, identify compliance deficits and assist the implementation of improvement/action plans. Documenting audit results in a report builds a body of evidence that can be used to support improvement plans and funding submissions.

Conclusion: Effective compliance auditing is an ongoing quality activity that supports and assists sterilizing services to measure compliance with standards, show what is done well, identify deficits, and implement quality improvement plans.



Federation of Sterilizing
Research and Advisory
Councils of Australia