

NZSSA position on reprocessing of single use items 19 August 2022

The New Zealand Sterile Sciences Association (NZSSA) **Does Not** support the reprocessing of single use items under any circumstances.

Sterile Sciences Departments are responsible for the processing of Reusable Medical Devices (RMDs) only.

In New Zealand, standard AS/NZS 4187:2014 is the current Ministry of Health supported document for reprocessing of reusable medical devices in health service organisations.

Section 5.1.3. (f) states that: Medical devices labelled as or intended for single use and that have been used, **SHALL NOT** be reprocessed or reused. A medical device labelled with any of the following information or symbol (see below) **SHALL** be deemed to be a medical device intended only for single use.



In AS/NZS 4187: 2014 sterilisation standard the use of the word **SHALL** means that the practice being outlined is a mandatory requirement for a sterilising unit to comply with.