



Bar Maid



NOTES From "The Maid"

Stop Coronavirus Spread through Buildings via Plumbing Drains

During the SARS epidemic, that coronavirus spread through a building via the plumbing system's drains and caused widespread infection among residents. There is concern that SARS-CoV-2, the coronavirus that causes COVID-19, may spread in the same manner.

The drains of a plumbing system are interconnected, meaning toilets, sinks, bathtubs, showers and floor drains are connected, and even connected between different units within a building. A trap usually prevents aerosolized pathogens, sewer gases, insects and odors from exiting the drain. A dry trap, vent blockage or other plumbing system malfunction may result in failure of the trap to work properly and allow those to migrate out of the drain and into the living space.

The World Health Organization found that floor drains were a conduit for aerosolized virus to travel between apartment units and contributed to a super-spreading event of SARS-CoV infection in 2003.¹

SARS-CoV-2 has been detected in the feces of some patients diagnosed with COVID-19. After a February 2020 investigation into a similar spreading event of this coronavirus between residents living in a Hong Kong high-rise, health officials suspect malfunction of the interconnected plumbing system allowed the coronavirus to spread between apartment units.

According to a study in the journal Lancet Global Health, the interconnectedness of the wastewater plumbing network can facilitate exposure to SARS-CoV-2 within, or even between, buildings.² This is of particular concern

in high-risk transmission settings such as hospitals and healthcare facilities, hotels and multi-family residential operators, restaurants, cruise lines, schools, high-traffic facilities and commercial businesses such as restaurants.

One thing is for sure. Business and facility operators, and ordinary people, will be looking for ways to improve sanitation and prevent contamination. They will be looking for products that help keep staff, patrons, and themselves safe. Every few weeks, Bar Maid will address challenges after coronavirus, and products to address those challenges.



¹ World Health Organization. (2003). Consensus document on the epidemiology of severe acute respiratory syndrome (SARS). World Health Organization. <https://apps.who.int/iris/handle/10665/70863>
² Gormley, M., Aspray, T. J., & Kelly, D. A. (2020). COVID-19: mitigating transmission via wastewater plumbing systems. Lancet Global Health. [https://doi.org/10.1016/S2214-109X\(20\)30112-1](https://doi.org/10.1016/S2214-109X(20)30112-1)

FLY-BYE Drain Trap Seal can be part of a strategy to reduce exposure risk from COVID-19

Bar Maid's FLY-BYE Floor Drain Trap Seal is a patented one-way valve that prevents aerosolized pathogens, sewer gases, insects and odors from coming up through the floor drain, while allowing water and solids to drain down.

Two apparent things that give everybody the impression of "not sanitary" are foul odors and bugs, both of which are often found in floor drains. Bacteria and viruses can also be found in floor drains and while they may not be visible, are hazards to be addressed in the "new normal" after coronavirus.

The FLY-BYE Drain Trap Seal is cost-effective, and with four sizes available the product is easily installed in virtually any floor drain. Multiple approvals and certifications, including HACCP, make it a great control measure for

addressing hazards from floor drains. This product can be used in both residential and commercial applications, and is already used in thousands of independent and chain restaurants, hotels, hospitals and stadiums. For more information including a product sheet and video, please visit www.BestintheBar.com or contact us directly.



HACCP CERTIFIED

Hazard Analysis and Critical Control Points
HACCP International's certification mark confirms a non-food product's ability to support the integrity and safety of food as demanded by industry expectations, legislation and GFSI (Global Food Safety Initiative) endorsed standards.



Helps in LEED Certification

