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HLST 4340

Health Technology Assessment Proposal

Medical condition: SARS-COV 2/Coronavirus, Other communicable airborne pathogens.

Intervention: Covid Safe Lid Applicator

Comparator: There is currently no cure for the coronavirus illness, although huge strides have been made in speeding up vaccine production and distribution.

Detailed descriptions of medical condition:

The ongoing pandemic is caused by COVID-19 which belongs to the Coronavirus family. The Covid-19 Virus is transmitted via 'airborne droplets' which when inhaled by individuals after varying periods of viral incubation cause illness which can range from mild to critical. Covid-19 targets the respiratory system i.e the upper and lower respiratory tracts and sinuses. Mild illnesses include fevers, fatigue, and lack of appetite among others, while critical illnesses include heart failure, respiratory failure, septic shock, pneumonia and other severe bodily complications.

Function:

The Covid Safe Lid Applicator prevents the transmission of the Coronavirus from workers to the customer. This applicator enables the application of lids to cups of beverages without workers having physical contact with the lids of the cups. This was a former transmission point of new Covid-19 infections.

Structure:

The Covid Safe Lid Applicator is a simple ring, produced from medical grade plastic.

Summary:

In conclusion this technology is appropriate for combating and reducing the spread of Coronavirus which I believe should make it eligible for a health technology assessment. Healthcare systems in Canada within the province of Ontario specifically are on the brink of collapse due to increased demand for patient care and increased complications arising from this virus. The province is also dealing with equipment and personnel shortages such as, PPE shortages and respiratory therapists to say the least. This technology has the potential to reduce infection/reinfection rates significantly, reducing burden on the health system in Ontario while saving lives through prevention.