

[REDACTED]
Hand Dryer LLC
[REDACTED]

March 1, 2026

Secretary
U.S. Department of Health and Human Services
200 Independence Avenue SW
Washington, DC 20201

Re: Notification of Systemic Hand Dryer Contamination Affecting Healthcare Facilities Nationwide

Dear Secretary Kennedy,

I am providing you with this information package because the Department of Health and Human Services is the coordinating authority for public health in the United States, and the issue documented here crosses the jurisdictions of multiple HHS operating divisions. Hospitals, nursing homes, long-term care facilities, and other healthcare environments regulated by CMS contain hand drying equipment that amplifies bacterial and fungal contamination rather than reducing it. The CDC publishes hand hygiene guidance that manufacturers have incorporated into their marketing materials to imply federal endorsement of products that perform the opposite of their claims. The FDA has jurisdiction over device safety and the false hygiene representations being made. This is a systemic failure requiring coordinated HHS response. HHS is now on notice.

The enclosed white paper and technical appendix summarize over two years of independent scientific research. The conclusions will not make sense unless the underlying science is read in full. Your technical staff will need to review all eleven journal preprints, including the appendices, and view the twenty-five-minute data chain-of-custody video included in this package. These materials document how modern dispersal-type hand dryers perform in the real world, illustrate the multiple false claims made by manufacturers and certifying bodies, and explain why long-standing promises made about their hygiene, drying time, and energy performance are incorrect.

The core claims can be verified without specialized equipment. Go to any HHS facility restroom with a hand dryer. Wash your hands. Use the dryer for 15 seconds. Watch 7 grams of water spray onto walls, floor, and clothing. Look at your wet hands when you are

done. Look at the wall and the bottom of the dryer for mold. You will have verified half of the journal science before you have read it.

The healthcare implications are profound. These devices are installed in CMS-regulated hospitals where hand hygiene is the primary barrier against healthcare-associated infections. They are installed in nursing homes serving vulnerable elderly populations. They are installed in long-term care facilities where immunocompromised residents depend on infection control. The devices amplify bacterial contamination by 50 to 110 times over ambient air. The certification system that validated these claims operated as a closed loop in which manufacturers controlled the standards they would be tested against. The private certifying and testing agencies are complicit.

This package includes a technical white paper summarizing findings and regulatory implications, a technical appendix with complete certification ecosystem documentation, eleven journal preprints with permanent DOIs, a chain-of-custody video guiding you through 1.3TB of underlying research. All materials exist in redundant public repositories including Zenodo, Harvard Dataverse, and multiple mirror sites. The research is independently verifiable by any qualified party.

Separate packages are being delivered directly to the Food and Drug Administration, the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, the U.S. Department of Agriculture, and the General Services Administration. This package is provided to HHS because the issue requires coordination across operating divisions, not fragmented responses from individual agencies.

My objective in providing this information is straightforward: to place HHS on notice with full visibility into the science, the certification failures, and the scope of affected facilities. HHS needs to act promptly to resolve this immense ongoing public health issue. If washing hands decreases disease then spraying the washed hands and the rest of the room with bacteria, fungi, and viruses increases disease and death. I am available to assist in any way I can.

Respectfully,

Ronald A. Blouch, Jr.
Hand Dryer LLC

*cc: HHS Office of Inspector General
HHS Office of the General Counsel*