Hand drying is an important part of hygiene.

**Average number of bacteria in air immediately after drying poorly washed hands**

- **Jet Air Dryer**: 71 CFU
- **Warm Air Dryer**: 16 CFU
- **Paper Towel**: 3 CFU

**Airborne contamination**

- Water droplets containing bacteria

**Average numbers of bacteria in air**

*standard volume of air collected for 15 minutes after each hand drying episode.

- Immediately after drying poorly washed hands: 14 CFU, 4 CFU, <1 CFU

Source: Microbiological comparison of hand drying methods: the potential for contamination of the environment, user and bystander. E.L. Best, P. Parnell, M.H. Wilcox - Published in the the Journal of Hospital Infection. (pp)