Single-use towels offer the most effective and most hygienic hand washing solution compared to jet air dryers.

**Towels are hygienic:**

- **77%**
  - Paper towels are critical to proper hand hygiene, as they can remove up to 77% of the bacteria that remains on hands after washing.

- Jet air dryers blow water droplets containing bacteria from the hands as far as 6.5 feet and linger in the air for up to 15 minutes.

- The inner surfaces of a jet air dryer can harbor 48 times more bacteria than found on a toilet seat.

- Jet air dryers can actually increase bacteria by 42% on users' fingers during the drying process.

**Towels are preferred:**

- The World Health Organization recommends single-use paper towels in its patient safety instructions for health care workers.1

- 90% of people show a preference for paper towels over jet air dryers in the washroom.

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1. WHO “Hand Hygiene Guidelines for Health Care Workers”