

**Conference for Food Protection
2016 Issue Form**

Issue: 2016 III-013

Council Recommendation:	Accepted as Submitted _____	Accepted as Amended _____	No Action _____
Delegate Action:	Accepted _____	Rejected _____	

All information above the line is for conference use only.

Issue History:

This is a brand new Issue.

Title:

Motion-Activated Handwashing Sinks

Issue you would like the Conference to consider:

The FDA made editorial changes to the Food Code in May 1, 2010, June 3, 2013, and March 6, 2014 and issued a response to the question of whether Section 5-202.12 (C) of the 2013 FDA Code addressed water-conserving motion sensor activated faucets if reactivation is by movement of the hands. FDA determined that even though § 5-202.12 (c) states that self-closing, slow-closing, or metering faucets at a handwashing sink shall provide a flow of water for at least 15 seconds without the need to reactive the faucet, it does not apply in the case of motion-activated handwashing faucets. If this determination has been made my FDA for almost 5 years and these motion-activated faucets are in use throughout the industry then it should be clearly stated in the Food Code that movement of hands is an acceptable means of reactivation if hands are not contaminated in the process.

Public Health Significance:

The attached letter for supporting documentation shows FDA justification that "there does not appear to be a conflict in achieving a proper handwashing per Section 2-301.12 with the use of water conserving motion-sensor activated handwashing faucets, as there would not be a restricted water flow or restricted use of the hands with the reactivation of the sensors".

Recommended Solution: The Conference recommends...:

a letter be sent to the FDA requesting the 2013 Food Code be amended as follows (language to be added is underlined):

Section 5-202.12

(C) A self-closing, slow-closing, motion-activated or metering faucet shall provide a flow of water for at least 15 seconds without the need to reactivate the faucet.

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Supporting Attachments:

- "Motion Sensor Activated Faucets v03"

It is the policy of the Conference for Food Protection to not accept Issues that would endorse a brand name or a commercial proprietary process.



Reference Document: 2009 FDA Food Code

Provision(s): Paragraph 5-202.12 (C)

Document Name: Motion Sensor Activated Faucets v03

Date: May 1, 2010, Editorial Change June 3, 2013, Editorial Change March 6, 2014

Question: Does Food Code paragraph 5-202.12 (C) apply to water-conserving motion sensor activated faucets if re-activation is by movement of the hands under the faucet without physical contact with the fixture?

Response:

Paragraph 5-202.12 (C) of the Food Code states that self-closing, slow-closing, or metering faucets at a handwashing sink shall provide a flow of water for at least 15 seconds without the need to reactivate the faucet. This paragraph (5-202.12 (C)) does not address the use of motion-activated handwashing faucets that can provide a flow of water for the required time period without restriction of handwashing during reactivation of the faucet. There does not, however, appear to be a conflict in achieving a proper handwashing per Section 2-301.12 with the use of water conserving motion-sensor activated handwashing faucets, as there would not be a restricted water flow or restricted use of the hands with the reactivation of the sensors.

References:

1. 2009 Food Code, 2-301.12 Cleaning Procedure, 2-301.14 When to Wash, 2-301.15 Where to Wash, 5-202.12 (C) Handwashing Sink, Installation, and Annex 3, Section 2-301.12.