

Mobile phones, wireless communication and health – the Evidence

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The Environment and Cancer Research Foundation
www.environmentandcancer.com



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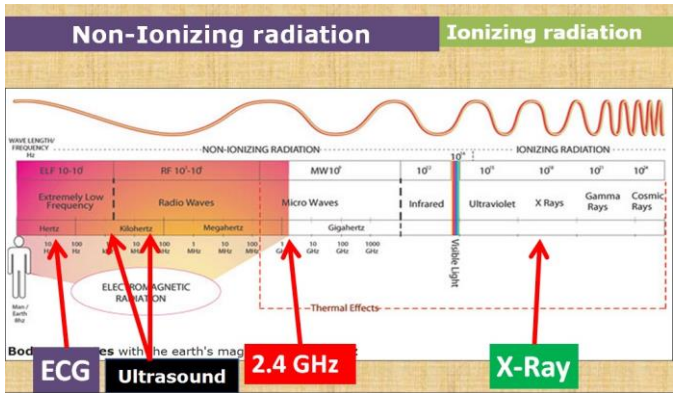
Co-workers over the years:

Michael Carlberg, MSc
Kjell Hansson Mild, PhD
Fredrik Söderqvist, PhD
Arne Hallqvist, MD, PhD
Åsa Näsman, MSc
Anneli Pahlson, MD
Anders Lilja, MD, PhD
Monica Sandström, PhD

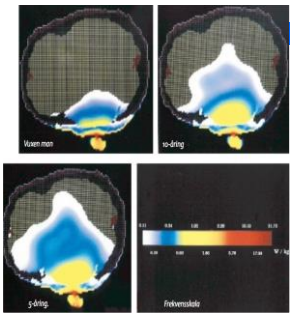
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Elsy-Britt Schildt, MD, PhD
Åke Dahlqvist, MD, PhD
Jonna Wilén, PhD
Henrik Zetterberg, MD, PhD
Mikael Eriksson, MD, PhD
Lena Hedendahl, MD
Christer Sundström, MD, PhD
Tarmo Koppel, PhD
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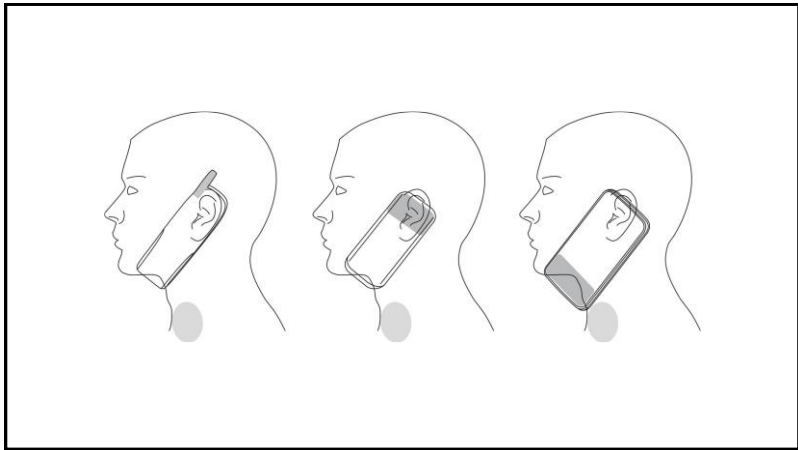


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Adult man, 10 years child, 5 years child, frequency scale.
GSM phone 835 MHz with SAR in Watt/kg.
Professor Om Gandhi with courtesy.

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IARC/WHO risk evaluation, 2011:

The WHO/International Agency for Research on Cancer (IARC) has classified radiofrequency (RF) electromagnetic fields as **possibly carcinogenic to humans (Group 2B)**, based on an increased risk for **glioma**, a malignant type of brain cancer, and **acoustic neuroma** associated with **wireless radiation**

http://www.iarc.fr/en/media-centre/pr/2011/pdfs/pr208_E.pdf

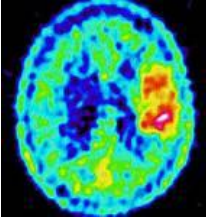
(All sources for radiation in the frequency range 30 kHz–300 GHz)





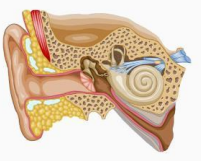
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GLIOMA	Ipsilateral		
	Cases/controls Numbers of exposed	Odds Ratio	95 % Confidence Interval
Interphone 2010			
Cumulative use ≥1,640 h	100/62	1.96	1.22 – 3.16
Coureau et al 2014			
Cumulative use ≥896 h	9/7	2.11	0.73 – 6.08
Hardell, Carlberg 2015			
Cumulative use ≥1,640 h	138/133	3.11	2.18 – 4.44
Meta-analysis			
Cumulative use ≥1,640 h*	247/202	2.54	1.83 – 3.52



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Acoustic neuroma	Ipsilateral		
	Cases/controls Numbers of exposed	OddsRatio	95 % Confidence Interval
Interphone 2010			
Cumulative use ≥1,640 h	47/46	2.33	1.23 – 4.40
Hardell et al 2013			
Cumulative use ≥1,640 h	19/133	3.18	1.65 – 6.12
Meta-analysis			
Cumulative use ≥1,640 h	66/179	2.71	1.72 – 4.28



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Pathology findings – Brain

Hyperplastic Brain Lesions in Male Rats

	Control	GSM Modulation			CDMA Modulation		
	0 W/kg	1.5 W/kg	3.0 W/kg	6.0 W/kg	1.5 W/kg	3.0 W/kg	6.0 W/kg
Number examined	90	90	90	90	90	90	90
Malignant glioma [†]	0*	3 (3.3%)	3 (3.3%)	2 (2.2%)	0	0	3 (3.3%)
Glial cell hyperplasia	0	2 (2.2%)	3 (3.3%)	1 (1.1%)	2 (2.2%)	0	2 (2.2%)

[†] Historical control incidence in NTP studies: 11/550 (2.0%), range 0-8%

* Significant SAR-dependent trend for CDMA exposures by poly-6 (p < 0.05)

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Pathology findings – Schwannomas

Schwannomas Observed in Male Rats

	Control	GSM Modulation			CDMA Modulation		
	0 W/kg	1.5 W/kg	3.0 W/kg	6.0 W/kg	1.5 W/kg	3.0 W/kg	6.0 W/kg
Number examined	90	90	90	90	90	90	90
Heart [†]	0*	2 (2.2%)	1 (1.1%)	5 (5.5%)	2 (2.2%)	3 (3.3%)	6** (6.6%)
Other sites	3 (3.3%)	1 (1.1%)	4 (4.4%)	2 (2.2%)	2 (2.2%)	1 (1.1%)	2 (2.2%)
All sites (total)	3 (3.3%)	3 (3.3%)	5 (5.5%)	7 (7.7%)	4 (4.4%)	4 (4.4%)	7 (7.7%)

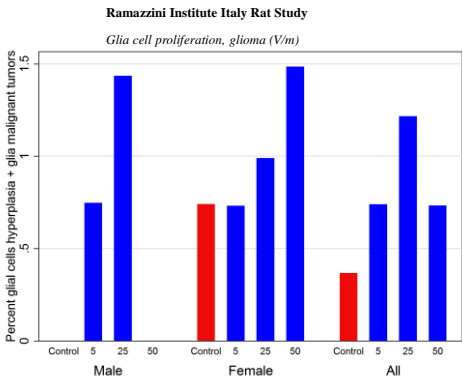
[†] Historical control incidence in NTP studies: 9/699 (1.3%), range 0-6%

* Significant SAR-dependent trend for GSM and CDMA exposures by poly-3 (p < 0.05)

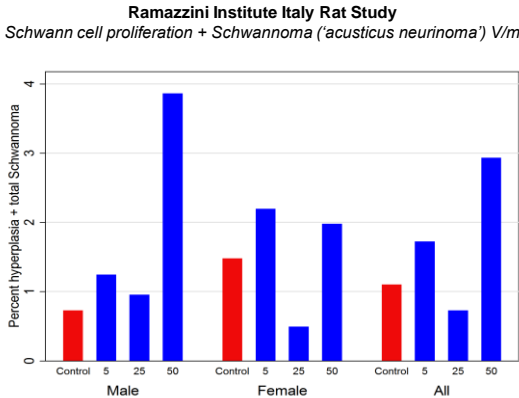
** Significant different than controls poly-3 (p < 0.05)

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ICNIRP Note: Critical evaluation of two radiofrequency electromagnetic field animal carcinogenicity studies published in 2019, Health Phys 118(00), 2020

- No verified mechanism for RF radiation carcinogenesis

But:

- oxidative stress
- DNA damage

- Histopathology evaluation was not blinded
- Increased body temperature in NTP = the cancer risk
- Only Hardell group showed increased acoustic neuroma risk
- Note similar findings in Interphone
- Ignores the concordance between the tumour types found in human epidemiology and animal studies.

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ICNIRP Commission

Rodney Croft, chair
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Akimasa Hirata
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Sharon Miller
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Zenon Sienkiewicz
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Karipidis K*, Elwood M, Benke G, Sanagou M, Tjong L, Croft RJ*. Mobile phone use and incidence of brain tumour histological types, grading or anatomical location: a population-based ecological study. BMJ Open. 2018 Dec 9;8(12):e024489. doi: 10.1136/bmjopen-2018-024489. *ICNIRP

-glioblastoma (GBM) incidence increased significantly only during the period 1993-2002 (1982-2013)
-increase in frontal lobe
-ages 20-59. This represents about 39% of Australian brain tumours
-age-standardised to WHO world standard population, which in no way represents the modern Australian population age-spectrum

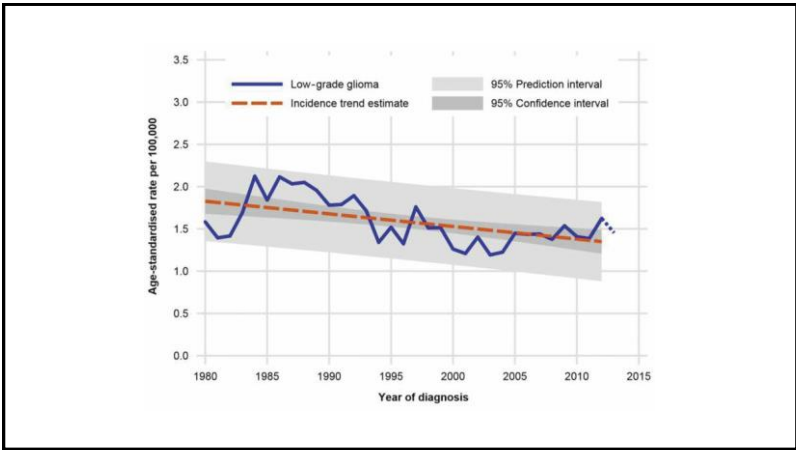
15

Nilsson J, Järås J, Henriksson R, Holgersson G, Bergström S, Estenberg J*, Augustsson T*, Bergqvist M. No Evidence for Increased Brain Tumour Incidence in the Swedish National Cancer Register Between Years 1980-2012. Anticancer Res. 2019 Feb;39(2):791-796. *SSM (Swedish Radiation Protection Agency) relies on ICNIRP

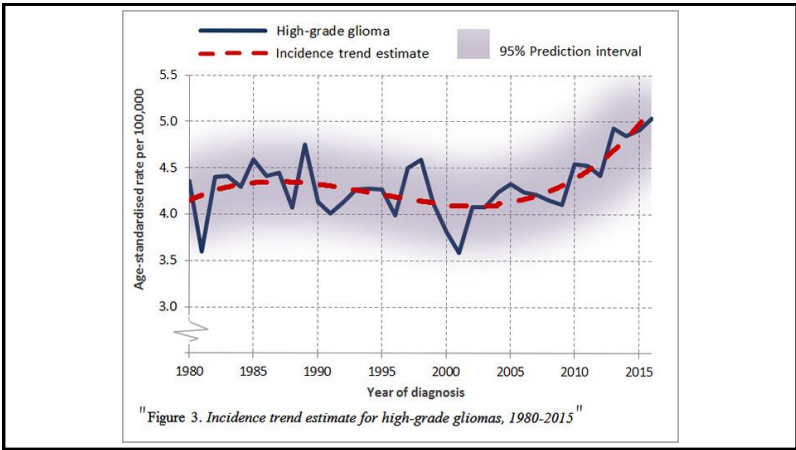
Note ended in 2012

Data on high grade glioblastoma (GBM) not presented

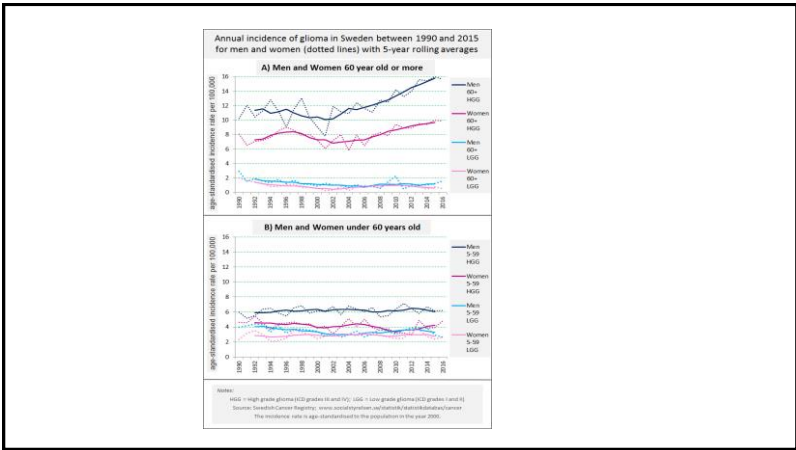
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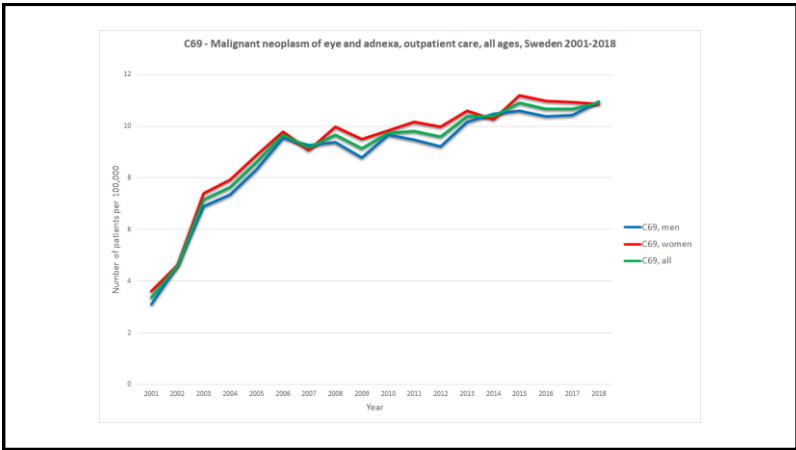
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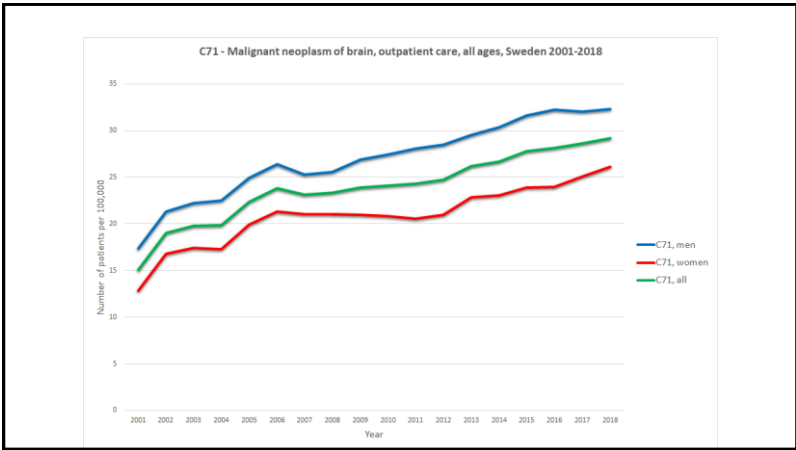
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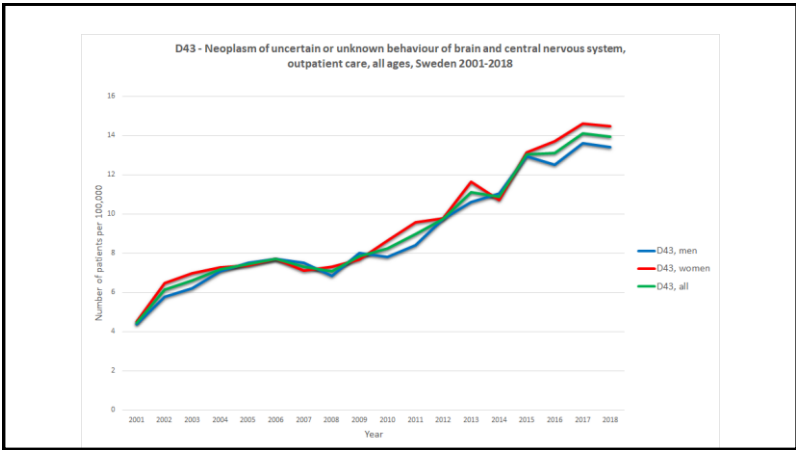
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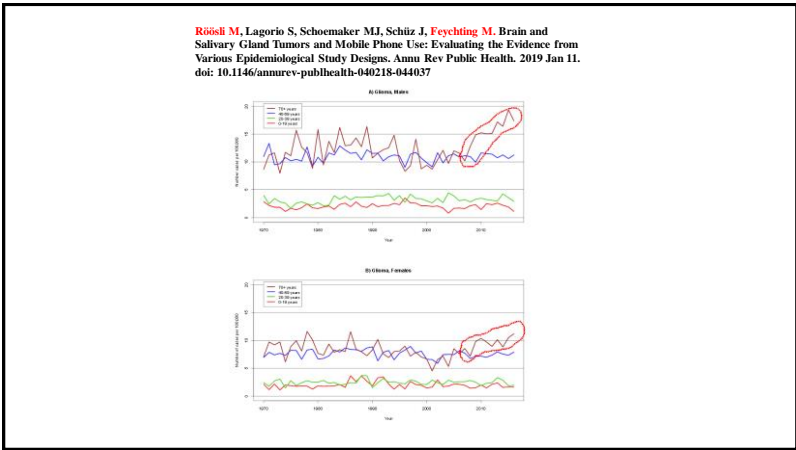
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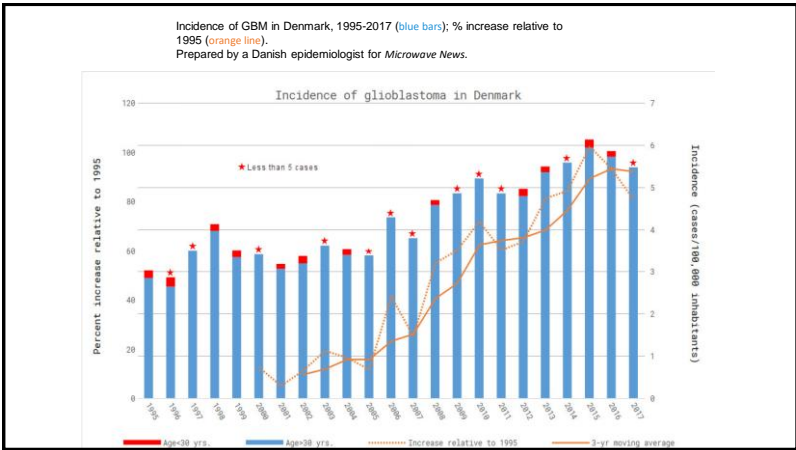
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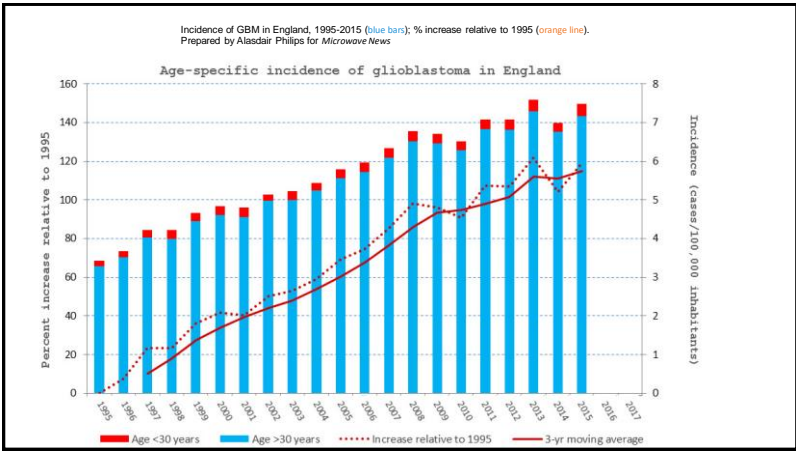
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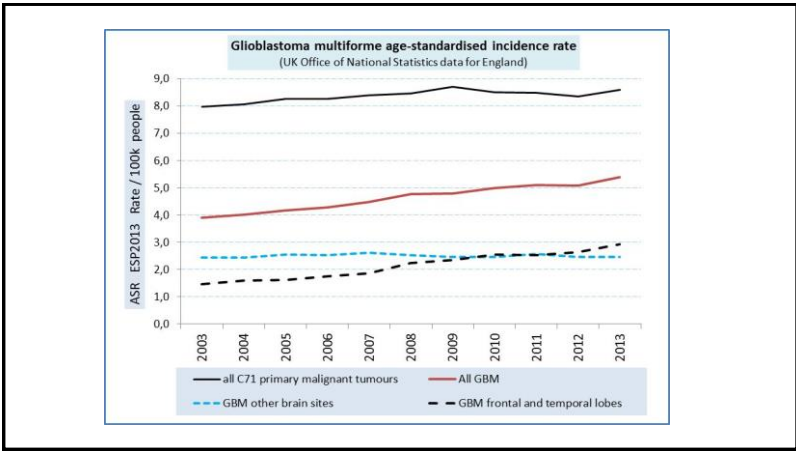
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Headache, tinnitus and hearing loss in the international Cohort Study of Mobile Phone Use and Health (COSMOS) in Sweden and Finland

Anssi Auvinen, 1,2* Maria Feychting, 3 Anders Ahlbom, 3 Lena Hillert, 3,4 Paul Elliott, 5,6,7,8 Joachim Schu, 2,9 Hans Kromhout, 10 Mireille B Toledano, 5,6,7,8 Christoffer Johansen, 11,12 Adak Harbo Poulsen, 11 Roel Vermeulen, 10 Sirpa Heina-vaa, 1 Katja Koj, 1 Giorgio Tettamanzi, 3 and the COSMOS Study Group†

Response rate 20.4 % in Sweden, 7.4 % in Finland

Excluded persons with headache, tinnitus, hearing loss at base line

Weekly headache OR 1.21, 95 % CI 1.02-1.43
After that multiple adjustments including pain killers – no statistically significant increased risk

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Are there any health risks?

London September 2019

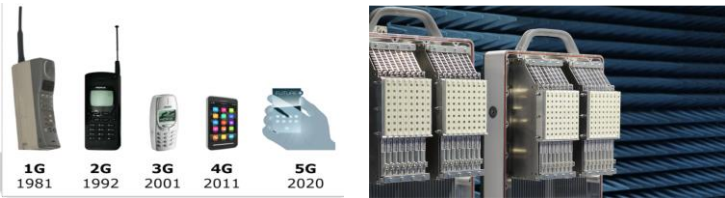
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Radiofrequency radiation

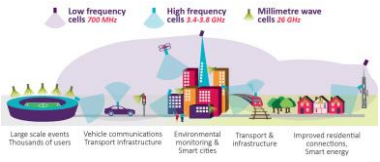
• 90 MHz	Radio	• 2000 MHz	3G
• 300 MHz	TV	• 2600 MHz	4G
• 700 MHz	5G	• 2450 + 5200 MHz	Wifi
• 800 MHz	4G	• 3400-3600 MHz	5G
• 900 MHz	2G, 3G	• 26500-27500 MHz	5G
• 1800 MHz	2G	(26,5-27,5 GHz)	
• 1900 MHz	DECT Cordless phone		

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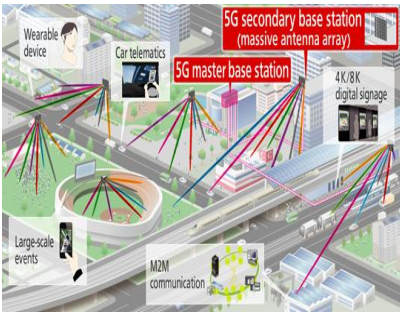
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Two-way communication
Always trying to get best connection. Higher radiation level when buildings, trees, vegetation, now, rain, fog etc. are involved
May need indoor antenna

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IN-DEPTH ANALYSIS Requested by the ITRE
committee (industrifrågor, forskning och energy)
5G Deployment, EU

State of Play in Europe, USA and Asia

Policy Department for Economic, Scientific and Quality of Life Policies
Directorate-General for Internal Policies
Authors: Colin BLACKMAN and Simon FORGE
PE 631.060 – April 2019

Three times more expensive than current system
Driven by Telecom
Convince governments that 5G is needed
Industry influence on governments that 5G is needed

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The notion of a “race” is part of the campaign
but it is becoming clear that the technology
will take much longer than earlier generations
to perfect.
China, for instance, sees 5G as at least a ten-
year program to become fully working and
completely rolled out nationally.

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The technologies involved with 5G are much more
complex.

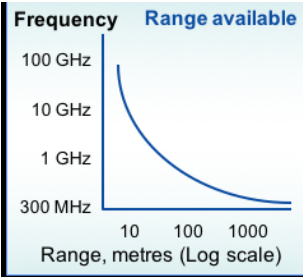
One aspect, for example, that is not well understood
today is the unpredictable propagation patterns that
could result in unacceptable levels of human exposure to
electromagnetic radiation.

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Focused beams: Rather than transmitting a wide area broadcast spread over a segment of the cell around a base station, an “active antenna” technique is used to form a set of steerable radio beams with power focused on a small area – the receiving handset

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Range reduced by square of distance



- Problems
- rain
 - snow
 - fog
 - trees, vegetation (especially during rain)
 - buildings, walls, etc

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Typical range 20 – 150 meter at higher frequencies
One square kilometer needs about 800 base stations if only 20 m range
All need battery backup

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Small cell standards are needed to give the EU a way forward for high quality outdoor and indoor cellular connectivity to support a light-touch regulatory regime, essential to ensure rapid rollout of perhaps hundreds of small cells per square kilometer

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5G Electromagnetic Radiation and Safety

Significant concern is emerging over the possible impact on health and safety arising from potentially much higher exposure to radiofrequency electromagnetic radiation arising from 5G.

Increased exposure may result not only from the use of much higher frequencies in 5G but also from the potential for the aggregation of different signals, their dynamic nature, and the complex interference effects that may result, especially in dense urban areas.

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The 5G radio emission fields are quite different to those of previous generations because of their **complex beam formed transmissions in both directions** – from base station to handset and for the return.

Although fields are highly focused by beams, they vary rapidly with time and movement and so are **unpredictable**, as the signal levels and patterns interact as a closed loop system. This has **yet to be mapped reliably for real situations, outside the laboratory**

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In line with EECC Article 57, the EU is crafting a regime for SAWAP deployment, aiming for **permit-free installation from 2020**.

The level of marketing activity is key, with **intense lobbying** of governments by equipment suppliers and operators – and also of the public by governments.

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Recommendation 1:
Increasing R&D efforts on the technology of 5G

Long-term technology research is essential. One key problem is the unusual propagation phenomena, especially controlling and measuring RF EMF exposure with MIMO at mmWave frequencies for the handset and the base station.

The technology presents challenges to the current level of expertise (based on previous generations of mobile cellular radio engineering) both for suppliers and standards organizations who must incorporate the specifications in future 5G standards

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More data

Improved consumer experience
More connected devices
Faster connection speeds
Virtual and Augmented Reality

More devices

e-health
Transport & logistics
Environmental monitoring
Smart energy networks
Smart agriculture, smart retail

Instant response

Vehicle-to-everything communication
Drone delivery
Remote control
Smart manufacturing

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Beamforming – several antenna in the same direction

*"However, since the radiation is concentrated into selected portions of territory, there **may** be an increase of EMFs in these points".*

Chiaraviglio, L., Cacciapuoti, A. S., Martino, G. D., Fiore, M., Montesano, M., Trucchi, D., & Melazzi, N. B. (2018). Planning 5G Networks Under EMF Constraints: State of the Art and Vision. *IEEE Access*, 6, 51021–51037. <https://doi.org/10.1109/ACCESS.2018.2868347>

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5G

- Skin
- Eyes
- Sweat glands – antenna effect
- Effects on bacteria
- Antibiotica resistance

Le Drain 2017, Russell 2018, Feldman 2008, Betzalel 2018, Soghomoyan 2016.

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Hence, for a given total output power, SAR may be lowered by “spreading” the power over a larger mass, or equivalently, larger tissue volume. The picture in Figure 1 exemplifies the idea: a given amount of light power captured in a lens can be converted from a harmless state to a harmful one by increasing its density

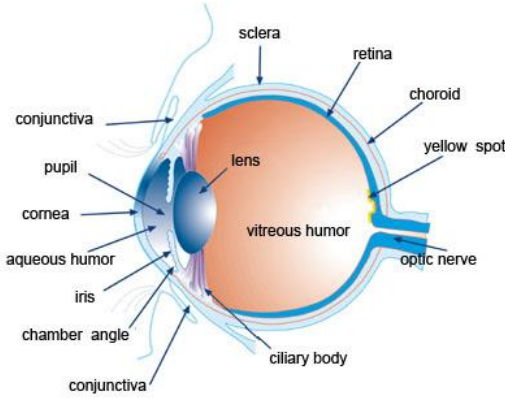
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Permanent tissue damage

The results also show that the peak-to-average ratio of 1,000 tolerated by the International Council on Non-Ionizing Radiation Protection guidelines may lead to permanent tissue damage after even short exposures, highlighting the importance of revisiting existing exposure guidelines.

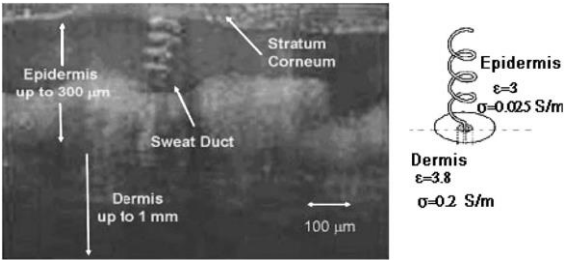
Neufeld, Kuster, *Health Phys.* 115(6):705–711; 2018

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Sweat glands in the skin may act as antennas for the 5G signal
Feldman et al 2008



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International Commission on Non-Ionizing Radiation

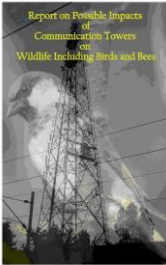
ICNIRP

$10 \text{ W/m}^2 = 61 \text{ V/m}$

Hardell L: World Health Organization, radiofrequency radiation and health - a hard nut to crack (Review). *Int J Oncol* 51: 405-413, 2017.

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Effects on bees, birds and plants by radiofrequency radiation



Three reviews show damage:

Cucurachi et al. (2013).
<http://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pubmed/23261519>

Balmori (2009):
<http://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pubmed/19264463>

Sivani & Sudarsanam (2012).
http://www.biomedonline.com/Articles/Vol4_4_2012/Vol4_4_202-216_BM-8.pdf

+ http://www.indianenvironmental.org.in/files/Trial_mobile_towers_report.pdf
<http://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pubmed/23915130>



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WHO Radio Frequency fields: Environmental Health Criteria Monograph

A 'formal risk assessment' was initiated by WHO in 2012. A draft was published in 2014. Of the 6 members 4 are active in ICNIRP and 1 is a previous member. The final document is still to be published

Table 1. Members of WHO Monograph core group and their involvement in different other groups.

Name	WHO	ICNIRP	UK/AGNIR	SSM	SCENIHR
Simon Mann	X	X	X		
Maria Feychting	X	X	X	X*	
Gunnhild Oftedal	X	X			
Eric van Rongen	X	X		X	
Maria Rosaria Scarfi	X	X*		X	X
Denis Zmirou	X				

*former
WHO: World Health Organization
ICNIRP: International Commission on Non-Ionizing Radiation Protection
AGNIR: Advisory Group on Non-Ionising Radiation
SSM: Strålsäkerhetsmyndigheten (Swedish Radiation Safety Authority)
SCENIHR: Scientific Committee on Emerging and Newly Identified Health Risks

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