



## Medicines and Healthcare Products Regulatory Agency: Mobile phone ban in hospitals not necessary

In its updated advice, the British Medicines and Healthcare Products Regulatory Agency, MHRA) takes account of the developments in mobile radio technologies and the growing communication needs of patients, visitors and hospital staff. In the opinion of the MHRA, there are areas where medical equipment could be affected. But there is no reason why mobile radio technology should not be used in designated areas.

[http://www.dh.gov.uk/PublicationsAndStatistics/PressReleases/PressReleasesNotices/fsen?CONTENT\\_ID=4086866&chk=rJnmhW](http://www.dh.gov.uk/PublicationsAndStatistics/PressReleases/PressReleasesNotices/fsen?CONTENT_ID=4086866&chk=rJnmhW)

## New brochures on mobile radio

Two new brochures of the German Initiative of Consumer Protection (Verbraucherinitiative e.V.) and the Swiss Research Foundation on Mobile Communication deal with issues associated with low- and radiofrequency fields from the perspective of consumers. Questions such as, “How do electromagnetic fields affect the human body?”, or: “Do electromagnetic fields pose a health threat?”, are addressed, as well as issues associated with limits and possible precautionary measures.

(Elektrosmog im Alltag - “Electrosmog” in daily life, German Initiative of Consumer Protection, <http://forum-elektrosmog.de/pdf/17.pdf>.

EMF im Alltag - EMF in daily life, Swiss Research Foundation on Mobile Communication, [http://www.mobile-research.ethz.ch/var/emf-info\\_broschuere.pdf](http://www.mobile-research.ethz.ch/var/emf-info_broschuere.pdf))

With its “Infopaket Mobilfunk”, the Mobile Radio Information Center – Informationszentrum Mobilfunk e.V. (IZMF) – offers thorough information on mobile radio communication, addressing mainly those responsible in municipalities and authorities. The five-part brochure can be ordered either at the IZMF, <http://www.izmf.de/html/de/18139.html>, or downloaded at: <http://izmf.de/html/de/38542.html>.

The World Health Organization (WHO) has published its information on electromagnetic fields in German. Six pages of information give an overview of health effects from electromagnetic fields as well as progress made in research.

<http://www.who.int/peh-emf/about/WhatisEMF/en/index6.html>



### Internet portals updated

The internet portal “Mobilfunk-Information” has been integrated into the service of the Federal Ministry of Economy and Labor (BMWA) since early August. At <http://www.bmwi.de/Navigation/Wirtschaft/Telekommunikation-und-Post/mobilfunk.html>

(but also at the old adress <http://www.mobilfunk-information.de>)

you can find information on technology, health, legal aspects and the different institutions and interest groups in the area of mobile radio. The newly created forum offers visitors the opportunity to discuss aspects of electromagnetic compatibility and environment.

The information platform “emf.info” of the Swiss Research Foundation on Mobile Communication has also been updated. Visitor can deepen his knowledge about electromagnetic fields – learn by playing. The interactive service is completed by a quiz and a FAQ list (FAQs with more than 180 questions).

<http://www.emf-info.ch/>.

### FGF Workshop in November: “Are RF fields able to raise the risk of cancer?”

International experts will convene on November 15-17 to present an overview of state-of-the-art research and to discuss new knowledge and experimental findings. The main focus of this workshop are results and possibilities of epidemiological studies, as well as long-term studies performed with animal models.

Organized in cooperation with the European Action COST 281 and the State of Baden-Württemberg, the workshop will take place in Schriesheim, near Heidelberg. Further information is found on the website of COST 281:

[www.cost281.org](http://www.cost281.org)

### 36<sup>th</sup> Annual Meeting of the Radiation Protection Association

On 31<sup>st</sup> August to 2<sup>nd</sup> September, the 36<sup>th</sup> Annual Meeting of the Radiation Protection Association took place in Cologne. It was hosted by the Working Group Non-Ionizing Radiation (AK NIR). The event mainly addressed specialists in industry, authorities and organizations, as well as those concerned with issues of occupational safety. Normal citizens seeking information on electromagnetic fields, optic radiation and infrared or ultraviolet radiation, could learn many new facts too. Main foci of the event were state-of-the-art science and technology related to bioeffects, dosimetry of exposure and respective national and international settings; safety and health in handling non-ionizing radiation as well as the corresponding regulations and standards. Information material (meeting abstracts/CD) can be ordered at a price of Euro 95 at the Fachhochschule Köln: [klaus.dollinger@fh-koeln.de](mailto:klaus.dollinger@fh-koeln.de)

### Third MTHR Research Seminar on Mobile Telecommunications and Health

On November 9 and in the morning of November 10, researchers will present their studies financed by the research program and take part in scientific discussions. The afternoon of the second day is open to all interested. Information on the seminar taking place in London is available on the internet at:

<http://www.mthr.org.uk>.

### Bioelectromagnetics 2005 in Dublin

Next year’s annual conference of the Bioelectromagnetics Society will take place on June 19 to 24 in Dublin, the capital of the Irish Republic. Further information is found at:

<http://www.bioelectromagnetics2005.org/>



## New Technologies – protection of the population against electromagnetic fields: closed meeting 2003 of the Commission on Radiation Protection

Due to the dynamics of the development of new technologies also in areas using electromagnetic fields, the Commission on Radiation Protection (Deutsche Strahlenschutzkommission, SSK) decided to analyse future developments anticipatory. In December 2003, the SSK discussed the future development of expected electromagnetic exposure of the general population in a closed session with experts in order to identify potential health effects in advance and to develop precautionary recommendations. The statement is available on the internet at:

<http://www.ssk.de/2004/ssk0402k.htm>.

### Events

Current events are found on the internet at: <http://www.fgf.de/english/aktuell/events/index.html>

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