

Radio waves and health

Mobile phones

Mobile telephones transmit low levels of radio waves when communicating with the mobile network. The maximum radio wave exposure is below the established safety limits.



Mobile telephones send and receive radio waves to communicate with base stations in mobile telephone networks. The radio waves are of the same type as those used in radio and television broadcasting and the radio communications used for many years by the police, air traffic, shipping and transport companies.

The output power from mobile phones is low. The maximum power level of handheld digital mobile phones is 0.25 watt. Though, in some GSM/GPRS data connections the power may be up to 0.5 watt.

Mobile phones do not transmit radio waves continuously. When the phone is in stand-by mode signals are only sent occasionally and no signals are transmitted when the phone is turned off.

Independent expert organizations have established exposure limits for radio waves based on many years of research. These limits include large safety margins. The World Health Organization (WHO), among others, recommends exposure limits which are adopted by national authorities.

The available scientific evidence does not show that any health problems are associated with using mobile phones.

However, research continues in an effort to expand the knowledge of possible effects of radio waves on humans. Ericsson, along with other companies, supports independent research in this area.

All mobile phone models are designed and tested to comply with relevant safety standards and government regulations regarding radio frequency exposure.

Information about radio wave exposure, including the maximum measured level, is provided with all mobile phone products. The maximum exposure level does however not represent the typical exposure during normal use. In real life, a mobile telephone only uses the amount of power needed to contact the mobile network.

Handsfree equipment is offered to the consumer for convenient, handsfree operation of the phone and not for safety reasons. Nevertheless, if individuals are concerned, they might choose to limit the radio wave exposure by using handsfree equipment to keep mobile phones away from the head and body.

For more information, visit <http://www.ericsson.com/health>.