

Health and Safety Information



What about children using wireless phones?

The scientific evidence does not show a danger to users of wireless phones, including children and teenagers. If you want to take steps to lower exposure to radio frequency energy (RF), the measured described above would apply to children and teenagers using wireless phones. Reducing the time of wireless phone use and increasing the distance between the user and the RF source will reduce RF exposure.

Some groups sponsored by other national governments have advised that children be discouraged from using wireless phones at all. For example, the government in the United Kingdom distributed leaflets containing such a recommendation in December 2000. They noted that no evidence exists that using a wireless phone causes brain tumors or other ill effects. Their recommendation to limit wireless phone use by children was strictly precautionary; it was not based on scientific evidence that any health hazard exists.

What about wireless phone interference with medical equipment?

Radio frequency energy (RF) from wireless phones can interact with some electronic devices. For this reason, FDA helped develop a detailed test method to measure electromagnetic interference (EMI) of implanted cardiac pacemakers and defibrillators from wireless telephones. This test method is now part of a standard sponsored by the Association for the Advancement of Medical Instrumentation (AAMI). The final draft, a joint effort by FDA, medical device manufacturers, and many other groups, was completed on late 2000. This standard will allow manufacturers to ensure that cardiac pacemakers and defibrillators are safe from wireless phone EMI.

FDA has tested hearing aids for interference from handheld wireless phones and helped develop a voluntary standard sponsored by the Institute of Electrical and Electronic Engineers (IEEE). This standard specifies test methods and performance requirements for hearing aids and wireless phones so that no interference occurs when a person uses a “compatible” phone and a “compatible” hearing aid at the same time. This standard was approved by the IEEE in 2000.

FDA continues to monitor the use of wireless phones for possible interactions with other medical devices. Should harmful interference be found to occur, FDA will conduct testing to assess the interference and work to resolve the problem.



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Where can I find additional information?

For additional information, please refer to the following resources:

FDA web page on wireless phones

(<http://www.fda.gov/cdrh/phones/index.html>)

Federal Communications Commission (FCC) RF Safety Program

(<http://www.fda.gov/oet/rfsafety>)

International Commission on Non-Ionizing Radiation Protection

(<http://www.icnirp.de>)

World Health Organization (WHO) International EMF Project

(<http://www.who.int/emf>)

National Radiological Protection Board (UK)

(<http://www.nrp.org.uk>)

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CTIA Safety Information

Exposure to radio frequency signals

Your wireless hand held portable telephone is a low power radio transmitter and receiver. When it is ON, it receives and also sends out radio frequency (RF) signals.

In August, 1996, the Federal Communications Commissions (FCC) adopted RF exposure guidelines with safety levels for hand-held wireless phones. Those guidelines are consistent with the safety standards previously set by both U.S. and international standard bodies:

ANSI C95.1(1992)

NCRP Report 86 (1986)

ICNIRP (1996)

Those standards were based on comprehensive and periodic evaluations of the relevant scientific literature. For example, over 120 scientists, engineers, and physicians from universities, government health agencies, and industry reviewed the available body of research to develop the ANSI Standard (C95.1).

The design of your phone complies with the FCC guidelines (and those standards).

Antenna care

Use only the specified of approved replacement antenna.

Unauthorized antennas, modifications, or attachments could damage the phone and may violate FCC regulations.

Phone operation

NORMAL POSITION : Hold the phone as you would any other telephones with antenna pointed up and over your shoulder.

Tips on efficient operation:

For your phone to operate most efficiently:

Extend your antenna fully

Do not touch with the antenna unnecessarily when the phone is in use. Contact with the antenna affects call quality and may cause the phone to operate at a higher power level than otherwise needed.