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From: [Robert Baan](#)

To:

Sent: Friday, March 30, 2012 10:21 AM

Subject: IARC's RF classification

The IARC Monographs classification of Radiofrequency Electromagnetic Fields (RF-EMF) covers the entire radiofrequency segment of the electromagnetic spectrum (30 kHz-300 GHz). Within this spectrum, the electromagnetic fields around (or the radiation emitted by) mobile telephones represent the most intense and most wide-spread exposure situation, for which a small increase in risk for glioma and acoustic neuroma has been found in the group of 'heavy users'. Because there were also some indications of increased cancer risks from studies on occupational exposures to different frequency-ranges (in the military, in the plastic-ware industry), the IARC Working Group did not want to restrict the overall evaluation to "RF-EMF from mobile phones" or to "RF-EMF from mobile phones that were used in the late 1990s" or to "RF-EMF from mobile phones that were used in the INTERPHONE study", since many other devices emit the same type of RF radiation, e.g., base-station antennas, radio/tv antennas, WiFi stations, smart meters, etc. Therefore, all these fall under the same broad evaluation of "Radiofrequency Electromagnetic Fields". This is what the Working Group discussed and decided last year. Of course, because the exposure levels for many of these other devices and exposure situations are so much lower than the exposure to someone who has a functioning cell phone against her/his ear, the risk will be considerably less (although the hazard still exists).

I hope this is sufficiently clear to be useful.

Thank you for your interest in our work.

Sincerely yours,

Robert A Baan PhD

Responsible Officer, Monograph 102 on RF-EMF

The IARC Monographs

IARC, Lyon, FRANCE