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### Health risks of wireless communication: What do we know, what can we do now, and what should we find out?

A wide range of expert opinions exists concerning the health risks of mobile phones and other wireless transmitting devices. Recent epidemiologic studies find that those who use cell phones regularly before age 20 develop 4 to 8 times more brain cancer within a decade. The absence of a secular trend in brain cancer is to be expected in so far as 80% of our brain cancers occurred in people over the age of 60 who are unlikely to have been heavy cell phone users. Experimental studies have found that currently used wireless transmitting devices damage male and female reproductive health and impair the ability to repair cell damage. Some studies have also found that this communication can interfere with bee-hive production. Based on this work experts advising the governments of India, France and Israel have developed precautionary policies especially reducing exposures to infants toddlers and those who wish to have healthy children. We call for a major independent training and research program funded through modest user fees on Internet service providers, device manufacturers, and consumers in order to identify major data gaps, and carry out important research on ways to mitigate or eliminate adverse public health and environmental impacts of wireless technology.

#### Biography

Devra Davis has completed PhD and MPH and is the President of Environmental Health Trust, Environmental Health Trust, a non-profit organization devoted to researching and controlling avoidable environmental health threats. She is the Author of *The Secret History of the War on Cancer* and other books, and Fellow in the American College of Epidemiology. She served as Founding Director of the Board on Environmental Studies of the US National Academy of Sciences. She is recognized internationally for her work on environmental health and disease prevention. A Presidential Appointee that received bi-partisan Senate confirmation, she was the Founding Director of the world's first Center for Environmental Oncology.

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