

Mobile phones increase risk of cancer, study says

Mobile phones do increase the risk of brain cancer, an international team of scientists have warned.

By Ben Leach

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<http://www.telegraph.co.uk/health/3208416/Mobile-phones-increase-risk-of-cancer-study-says.html>

The finding is the result of the biggest ever study by the International Agency for Research on Cancer, part of the World Health Organisation.

Scientists discovered that the chances of developing a malignant tumour are "significantly increased" for people who use a mobile for ten years.

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They found that a type of brain tumour called glioma is more likely in long-term mobile users.

French experts analysed data from 13 countries, including Britain and cross-referenced various types of tumours with mobile use.

Researchers admit the cause is unknown, but it is thought radiation from handsets could be the trigger.

Professor Elisabeth Cardis, who led the study, said: "To underestimate the risk would be a complete disaster."

But last night a British expert insisted mobiles are not dangerous.

Professor Patricia McKinney of the University of Leeds said: "Reasonable use is unlikely to increase the risk of tumours."

Last month a separate study claimed children and teenagers are five times more likely to get brain cancer if they use mobile phones.

The study, by Swedish scientists, warned that young people may suffer an "epidemic" of the disease in later life.

At least nine out of 10 British 16-year-olds have their own handset, as do more than 40 per cent of primary schoolchildren.