

Mobile phone use not associated with eye cancer

Researchers have discounted the possibility of a link between the use of mobile phones and the risk of eye cancer or melanoma.

Although there is no direct link between exposure to radio waves and DNA damage, which can cause cancer, studies have examined whether mobile phone use and melanoma of the eye are associated.

Andreas Stang, of the Martin-Luther-University of Halle-Wittenberg, Germany and colleagues examined the association between phone use and risk of uveal melanoma in 459 patients and 1,194 control subjects.

They were drawn from the general population, from ophthalmology clinics, and from siblings of the patients. The investigators grouped study participants according to amount of time spent on the phone, as never users, sporadic users and regular users, said a Martin Luther release.

There was no statistically significant association between mobile phone use of up to about 10 years and (uveal) melanoma risk.

'In conclusion, we observed no overall increased risk of uveal melanoma among regular mobile phone users or users of radio sets in Germany, where digital mobile phone technology was introduced in the early 1990s,' the authors write.

These findings were reported in Tuesday's online issue of the Journal of the National Cancer Institute.

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