

Canada's Safety Code 6

Guidelines for human exposure to radiation
from wireless transmitting devices

~ a sorry saga ~

Meg Sears PhD

Chair, Prevent Cancer Now

Expert Forum: Wireless Radiation and Human Health

The Israeli Institute for Advanced Study
Environmental Health Trust
The Hebrew University Medical School
January 23-26, 2016



Scientific Review Process

- Health Canada reviews Safety Code 6 periodically
- Royal Society of Canada provided questions and literature to start
- Questions, materials secret
- Canadian conflicted RSC panel members stepped down; foreign remained




REPORT

The Royal Society of Canada Expert Panel:
**A Review of Safety Code 6 (2013):
Health Canada's Safety Limits for Exposure to
Radiofrequency Fields**
Spring 2014

Dr. Paul Demers (Chair)
Dr. Richard Findlay
Dr. Kenneth Foster
Dr. Bryan Kolb, FRSC
Dr. John Moulder
Dr. Anne-Marie Nicol
Dr. Frank Prato
Dr. Rianne Stam



Systematic Review - *gold standard* *not done*



Protocol	X
Specific topics identified	X / ✓
Systematic approach and reporting	X
Extract, summarize and analyze data	X
Systematically assess study quality	X
Rate, translate confidence in studies	X
Two steps: hazard identification and risk assessment	X

Rooney et al. 2014

The Lancet Series on research reporting - 2014

140 studies missing 2009-2014

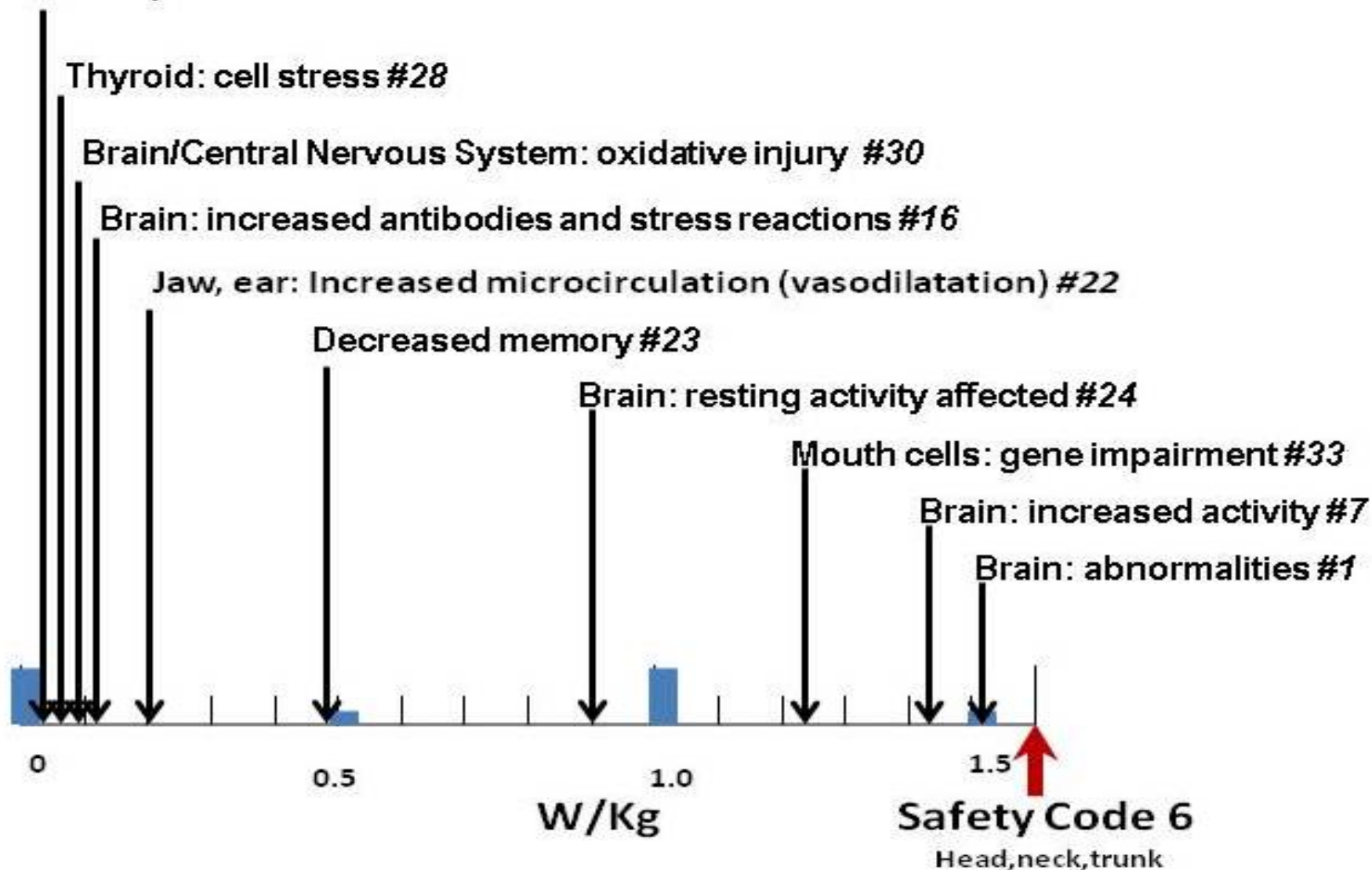
- RSC + Authoritative Reviews



SCENIHR Preliminary 2013
ANSES 2013 France
AGNIR 2012 United Kingdom (UK)
SSM 2013 Sweden
NIPH 2012 Norway
IARC 2011 WHO Monograph 102
EFHRAN 2012 European Commission
The Hague 2013 The Netherlands
SSK 2011 Germany
CCARS 2011 Spain
Latin America Experts Committee 2010
Mugdal et al 2013 European Commission*
Reuben 2010
ICNIRP 2009
Victoria Dept Health 2012 Australia
SCENIHR 2009
Part&Jarasinski 2013 European Commission

“In Scope” biological effects below Safety Code 6 SAR for the head, neck and trunk

DNA repair inhibited in blood cells #4



Radiofrequency Radiofrequency Electromagnetic Radiation and the Health of Canadians

Report of the Parliamentary Standing Committee on Health

12 Recommendations



1. Current Knowledge – Systematically review existing science
2. Knowledge – surveillance, A/E reporting, primary research
3. Awareness campaign on the risks, and safer use of wireless technologies
4. Marketing (Right to Know) and encouraging safer technologies

Health Canada Response *(post-election)*

- Little change in actions, advice
- No systematic update
- No update of cancer post-IARC 2011
- “If you are concerned” advice

Industry Canada

Current scientific consensus is that, provided Canadian radiofrequency (RF) exposure guidelines are respected, cellphones and cell sites are safe. If, despite this evidence, you prefer to reduce your RF exposure, here are some ways to do that ...

Next Steps

- Brief Parliamentarians and educate public
- Improve scientific approaches in literature review and meta-analysis
- Solutions from industry

Input from HESA participants and experts?



PREVENT
CANCER



ENVIRONMENTAL
HEALTH TRUST



C4ST

CANADIANS FOR SAFE TECHNOLOGY
CANADIENS POUR UNE TECHNOLOGIE SÉCURITAIRE