

September 27, 2019

The Honorable Anna Eshoo  
United States Representative for California  
202 Cannon House Office Building  
Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Representative Eshoo;

A recent Chicago Tribune investigation as well as published research on cell phone radiation has revealed that some of the most popular smartphones being used by consumers today could emit up to 5 to 11 times as much radiation as permitted under current FCC radiation exposure guidelines, despite claims by manufacturers that these phones meet all FCC requirements for

<sup>1,2</sup>  
safety. ,

These tests have repeatedly found that when phones are tested close to the body, regulatory limits are exceeded. The FCC and FDA have been informed but have not taken action.

Cell phones are not tested the way we use them today, such as in a shirt pocket or touching the body. Instead, the cell phone testing protocol prescribed by the FCC more than two decades ago and still in use today allows a separation distance between the phone and body. This constitutes an unrepresentative and irrelevant user scenario, producing radiation results that are not only inaccurate but also result in untested levels of radiation exposure for consumers. Yet manufacturers are not required to test phones in body contact positions before placing them on the market. Radiation levels of cellphones tested close to the body exceed FCC legal limits.

Considering that the outdated FCC testing protocol is based on the exposure of a 220-pound man, this is especially concerning for children and young adults, who are among the most active users of cell phones. Pediatricians have long called for an update to this outdated cell phone test

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<sup>1</sup> ["We tested popular cellphones for radiofrequency radiation. Now the FCC is investigating."](#) By Sam Roe, The Chicago Tribune, August 21, 2019

<sup>2</sup> Gandhi, O. P. (2019). [Microwave Emissions From Cell Phones Exceed Safety Limits in Europe and the US When Touching the Body](#). IEEE Access, 7, 47050-47052.

method noting that children's cell phone radiation absorption can be higher by a factor of 2 in a child's brain and higher by a factor of 10 in the bone marrow of the skull.

We call on you and the Committees of which you are Chairs to conduct immediate hearings on the accuracy, reliability and appropriateness of cell phone safety testing, so that the FCC can update and improve its testing procedures to protect the health and safety of all U.S. citizens.

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President of the french Society of environmental medicine (ISDE-France)

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<sup>1</sup>American Academy of Pediatrics, [Letter to FCC Commissioner Mignon Clyburn and FDA Commissioner Margaret Hamburg](#), April 29 2013. and American Academy of Pediatrics [Letter to the FCC](#), July 12, 2012.

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