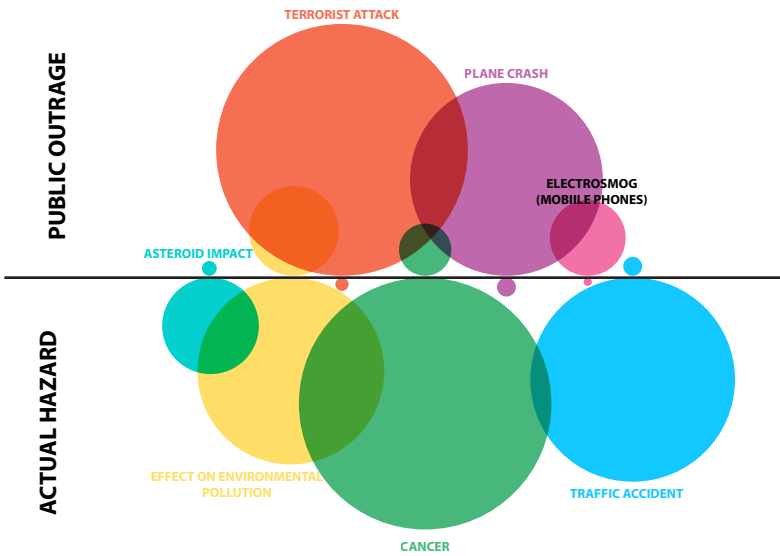




The frequencies of RF-EMF, which range from 100 kHz to 300 GHz, are considerably higher than ELF-EMF (1–300 Hz) and sometimes create a sense of worry and fear among the public. A look at statistics shows that the probability of becoming a victim of RF-EMF is quite small. Meanwhile other real hazards are perceived as rather uninteresting and raise far less fear, for example environmental pollution or car traffic as shown on the following graph.

RISK PERCEPTION AND ACTUAL HAZARDS



Considering the very low exposure levels and research results collected to date, there is no convincing scientific evidence that the weak RF signals from base stations and wireless networks have adverse health effects. (WHO, 2015)

What Should You Do?

Until more is known, your best strategy is to:

Stay informed

- Always check that the facts are from trustworthy and credible resources
- Read from a variety of resources such as newspaper article, journal publication and research papers
- Contact the authorities for any problems/issues (e.g. MCMC)
- Learn about RF-EMF from <http://rfemf.mcmc.gov.my/>

Limit your exposure

- Increase the distance between the mobile phone and the user by using accessories such as headphones and hands free kits.
- Make calls where reception is good to keep the emission from your phone at minimum level.
- Pay attention to manufacturer's advice regarding spacing from the body if phones are to be attached to belts or placed in pockets.



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EMF Emission

What You Should Know



International Research Findings on RF-EMF

- Over the 15 years that studies have been conducted, there is no evidence that the RF-EMF exposure increases the risk of cancer - *World Health Organization (WHO)*
- There is inadequate evidence concerning health risks due to RF-EMF- *European Health Risk Assessment Network (EFHRAN)*
- Harmful effects of RF-EMF exposure remains a subject of research and of active debate within the scientific community- *Australian Radiation Protection and Nuclear Safety Agency (ARPANSA)*

From all the evidence accumulated so far, no adverse short- or long-term health effects have been shown to occur from the RF exposure. Wireless networks produce generally lower RF signals than base stations, no adverse health effects are expected from exposure to them.

Electromagnetic field (EMF) radiation has two forms: extremely low frequency (ELF)-EMF and radiofrequency (RF)-EMF. EMF exists whenever there is electricity.

ELF-EMF can usually be found from the use of common household electronic appliances, such as vacuum cleaners, microwave ovens, shavers and hair dryers.

RF-EMF is usually emitted from broadcasting technologies including mobile communication devices, wireless networks, cordless phones, radar and baby monitors.

What is EMF?

1. Psychological Factors

- Usefulness of technology – if the devices are beneficial to people’s lives, they are more likely to perceive that RF-EMF poses less risk.
- Material values – if people emphasize materialistic values that are attached to the devices, they are more likely to perceive that RF-EMF poses less risk.
- Media influences – if people thought the media is exaggerating the news, they are more likely to perceive that RF-EMF poses less risk.
- Social influences – if people emphasize social acceptance and social circles, their perceived risk is more likely to be influenced by their social circle.

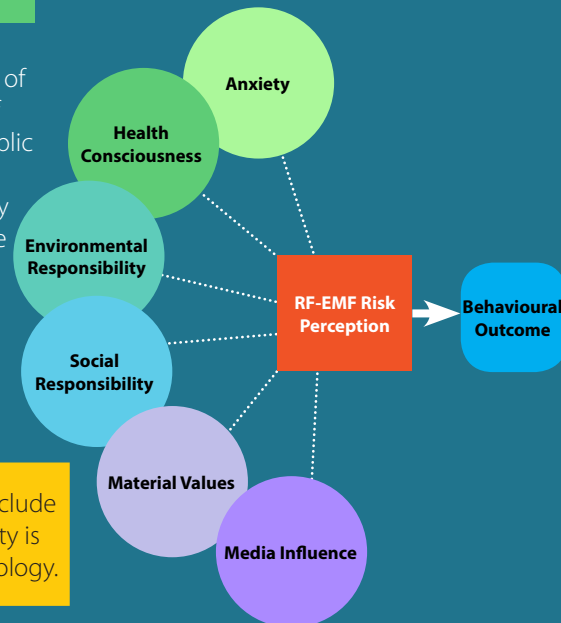
Quantitative Study

The UM team subsequently conducted a confirmatory nationwide study, using quantitative method which involved 1325 respondents shows that Psychological and Personal Factors affect people’s perception of risk posed by RF- EMF.

How Do Malaysians Perceive the RF-EMF Risk?

Qualitative Study

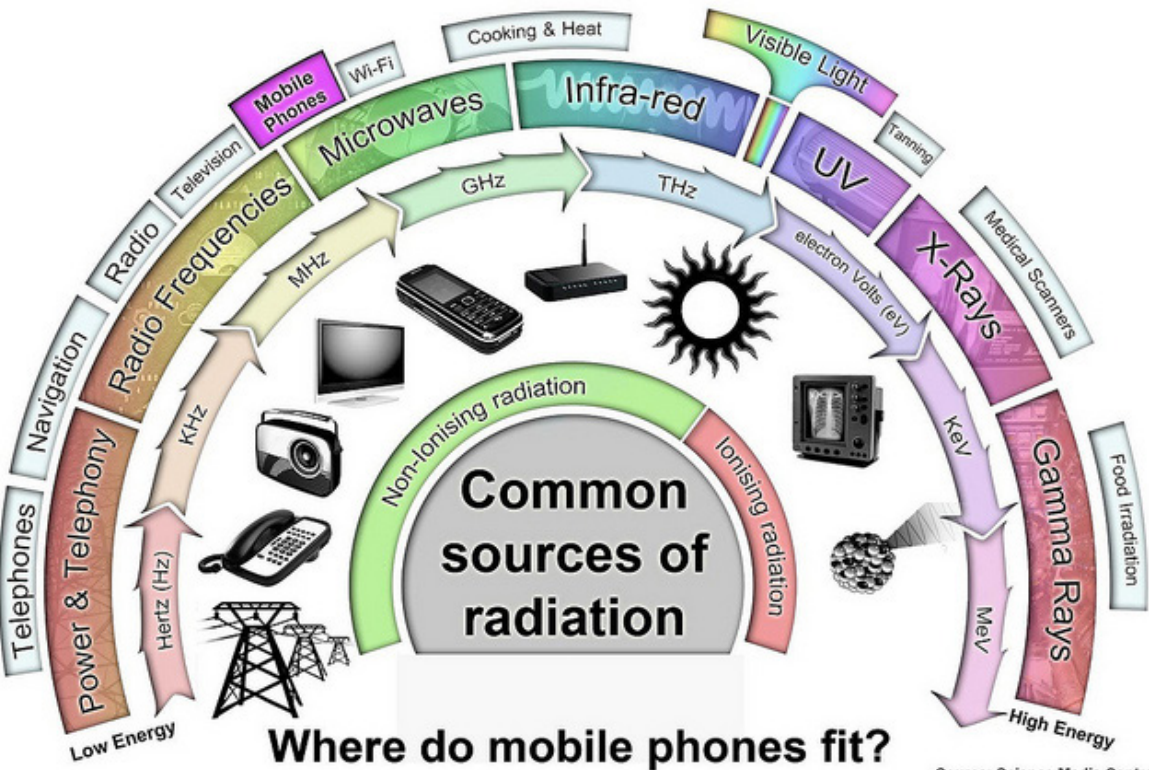
A qualitative nationwide study that was conducted by a team of researchers at the University of Malaya (UM) indicated that public behaviour and perception of the RF-EMF risk is influenced by several factors as shown on the following graphic.



2. Personal Factors

- Health consciousness – people who are health-conscious are more likely to perceive that RF-EMF poses a higher risk.
- Information source/media accessibility – people who are resourceful and use various media services to obtain information, are more likely to perceive that RF-EMF poses a lower risk.
- Responsible parties – people who perceive that many parties are protecting public from health risk, are more likely to perceive that RF-EMF poses a lower risk.
- Preferred activities – people who engage more in a variety of hobbies and activities, more likely to perceive that RF-EMF poses a lower risk.
- Usage of RF-EMF devices – people who use electronic devices regularly, are more likely to perceive that RF-EMF poses a lower risk.

Findings from both studies on risk perception conclude that the public is afraid of RF-EMF and their anxiety is heavily influenced by media, personality and psychology.



Where do mobile phones fit?

Source: Science Media Centre

(Source: Alex Quinn (2014). Electromagnetic Fields (EMFs), Extremely Low Frequency (ELF) and Radiofrequency (RF): what are the health impacts? Available from <http://www.globalresearch.ca/electromagnetic-fields-emf-extremely-low-frequencies-elf-and-radio-frequencies-rf-what-are-the-health-impacts/5335801>)