

## ARTICLE / INVESTIGACIÓN

# Evaluation of the effects of mobile phone electromagnetic radiation on some physiological parameters and histological structure in some laboratory male mice organs

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**Abstract:** Recently, the researcher has shown great interest in Electromagnetic radiation released from different devices such as TV, microwaves, medical apparatus, and satellites because of its effect on animals' growth and health. Exposure to "EMR" from mobiles phone can cause adverse effects on different cell functions. This study aimed to evaluate the effects of these radiations on histological and some blood parameters. The present study used 20 mice divided into two groups, the first one contains five animals as control, and the second experiment group contains 15 animals. EMR exposed from mobile for 12 h/day for one month. Histological examination of lungs, hearts and spleen showed a dramatic effect in these organs, such as necrosis, congestion, infiltrations, edema, splitting of muscle bundles and degenerations. This study shows that radiation from mobile phones contributes to histological changes in various visceral organs. Blood parameters showed a significant increase in platelets, bleeding and clotting time compared to the control group. The effect of EMR (Electromagnetic Radiation) on histology related to free radicals, increased lipid peroxidation in the cell membrane, and change in electrolyte concentration. An increase in platelets, bleeding and clotting time can also affect the rise in body temperature, ions and stimulations of stem cell divisions.

**Key words:** Electromagnetic radiations, mice, physiology, histology, mobile phone.

## Introduction

Mobile phones have become an essential instrument of communication. It is also a form of entertainment and free time, particularly for kids and people<sup>1</sup>. Exposure to electromagnetic waves (EMW) from mobile phones and much other equipment like microwave cookers, electric motors, stations of electricity and MRI systems equipment may have adverse effects on cell function such as chromosomal aberrations, damage to the tissues, neurological degeneration, migraines and headache in children, low birth weights and heart diseases<sup>2</sup>. Some research on magnetic fields and cancer found the different conditions in reproduction and neurobehavioral related to electromagnetic radiation (EMR), such as mobile phones<sup>3</sup>. Free radical formation in other tissues caused by cell phones was reported<sup>4</sup>. Everyone is exposed to two types of electromagnetic fields: the first one, from power lines and electronic appliances the second, electromagnetic waves from wireless devices such as cell phones, cordless phones, cellular antennae and towers<sup>5</sup>. The role of electromagnetic field theory in biology and medicine was an excellent introduction to electromagnetics in these sciences<sup>6</sup>. International Agency for Research on Cancer (IARC) and World Health Organization (WHO) conclude that the waves released from mobile phones are considered carcinogenic to humans, causing headaches, hearing loss and changes in brain activity<sup>7,8</sup>. Bioelectromagnetics fields interact with living systems which depends on the wave's shape, frequency and exposure time<sup>9</sup>. In 1775, an Austrian scientist, Frans Mesmer, declared the presence of electricity and magnetism in the human body. He had been criticized for his announcement<sup>10</sup>. In 1953, professor Iwada Yasuda found new bone formation in the rabbit femur when the current in the ( $\mu$ A) range was applied for three weeks, which means Electrical stimulation of bone marrow to form osteoblasts and osteocytes in osteoid tissue, that means without the mechanism of cell proliferation and differentiation, capable for production of new bone tissue<sup>11</sup>. Blood is a living mobile tissue that moves around the body via blood vessels to carry nutrients and oxygen<sup>12</sup>. Platelets are small, non-nucleated components of the blood that play an essential role in hemostasis by forming an initial plug that helps to stop acute bleeding from damage blood vessels and provides the physiological surface for activation of coagulation factors<sup>13</sup>. Platelet function affect by many environmental and behavioral factors such as body temperature, exposure to allergens, air pollution and nutrition<sup>14</sup>. The aim of present study to investigation effects possibility of electromagnetic waves (EMW) for mobile phone on the histological structure of some organs and effect on blood parameters.

## Materials and methods

### Experimental and study design

Twenty mature male mice weighed 25-30g and aged 12-14 weeks were used; animals were put in cage food and water were provided daily. The mice were divided into two groups; group 1 included five mice used as control. Group

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2 had fifteen mice exposed to EMR (Electromagnetic Radiation) from a mobile Nokia 2690 GSM frequency band (850-1900 MHz) with dimensions of (107.5 × 45.5 × 13.8) mm and weighing (80.7) g, a mobile connected to a phone network. The distance between animals and the device is about 15 cm. Mice are exposed for (12 hours\ day) when mobile in a standby state; the total period of exposure is one month.

### Histological process Technique

At the end of the experiments, samples of organs collections for histological study after animals were sacrificed under anesthesia. Hearts, lungs and spleen organs are fixed immediately by putting in formalin 10% for 24 hours. Tissues were dehydrated in ethanol, embedded in paraffin wax, tissues were sectioned at 5µm and stained with hematoxylin and eosin<sup>15</sup>.

### Blood collection

The mechanism of mammalian blood coagulation was designed to reduce blood loss due to injury and to keep blood fluid in the organism's blood vessels. Cardiac puncture blood collection is a widespread method for collecting blood from mice; by these processes, only small blood volumes can be obtained<sup>16</sup>.

### Blood assay

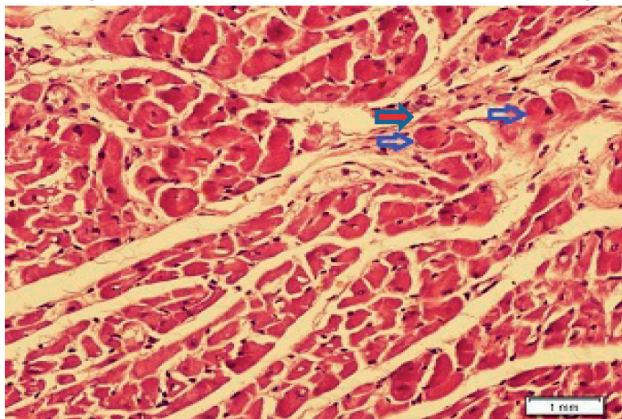
Platelets are critical mediators of hemostatic blood clot formation, and many methods to assess platelet function; one of these is Clotting time, which was measured by (17), while bleeding time is measured by (18).

### Statistical analysis

The results analysis with the software SPSS, version 24, at level ( $p \leq 0.0001$ ) by using a t-test for compared all treatment data with control mice.

## Results

The result showed that the examination of a light microscope for the paraffin section of cardiac muscles of mice when exposed to electromagnetic radiation, many histological disorders such as congestions, dilated blood vessels, disruption of few fibers, degeneration of cardiomyocytes, disarrangement of cardiac muscle tissue and splitting of

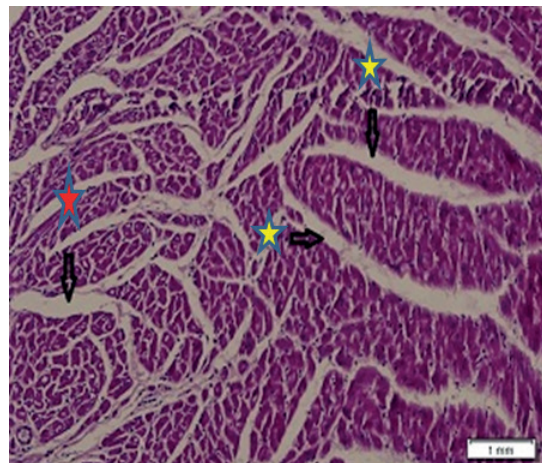


**Figure 1.** Shows heart tissue with degeneration of cardiomyocytes (blue arrow), disarrangement of cardiac muscle tissue and splitting of muscle bundles (red arrow) (H&E stain x400).

muscle bundles (fig. 1,2). Examination of the lung tissue of mice showed increased infiltrations of inflammatory cells, edema for interstitial space thickness of alveolar walls and congestions (fig. 3,4). Tissue sections of the spleen showed congestion, necrosis in the white pulp, and an increase in red pulp (fig. 5). Blood parameters results showed a highly significant increase ( $p \leq 0.0001$ ) in clotting time and bleeding time exposed to 12/ hrs of electromagnetic radiation from mobile phone (fig. 6) compared to control. Also, platelet counts showed a significant increase ( $p \leq 0.0001$ ) as compared to the control group (fig. 7).

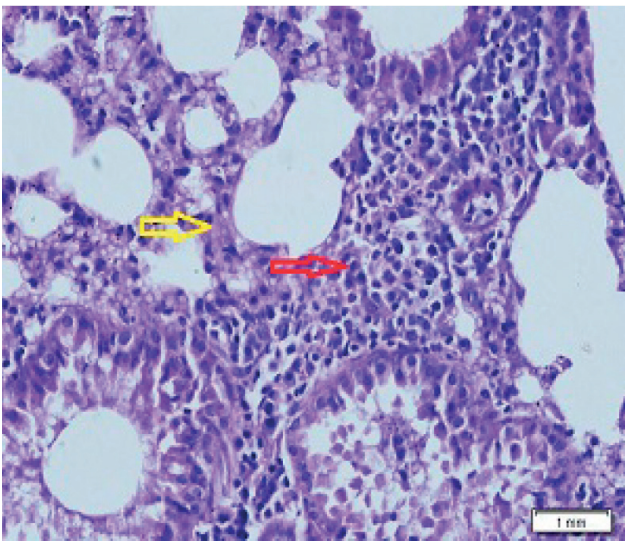
## Discussion

Excessive exposure to (EMF) due to increased technologies becomes dangerous because of its effect on different organisms' biological systems and health. This research aimed to investigate histological disorders of some organs. The present study's result agrees with (19) who found damage in the heart tissue of mice exposed to the mobile phone (MP); this can be attributed to the use closely the heart can absorb EMR emitting from MP. In consonant with the present study, (20) found many disorders in the lung, such as infiltration of inflammatory cells, blood vessel obstruction and interalveolar septal disturbance. (21) found exposure to EMR emitted from mobile can cause enlarged in the white pulps of the spleen and dilatation of its sinusoids; the degree of these changes increased with the duration of EMR exposure. Also, (22) found atrophy in seminiferous tubules and vacuolation in hepatocyte cells of guinea pigs exposed to EMW. The present study agreed with (23) when they discovered that many lesion in the tissue of brain rat exposed to EMW includes degeneration and edema, in lung found hemorrhage, emphysema and alveolar congestion. Atrophy with vacuolations in the hepatocyte, also necrosis in the pancreas. These changes can be attributed to many mechanisms: EMW with high energy causes increased local temperature leading to break down protein bound and denaturation<sup>24</sup>. The second mechanisms where wave contact together to formed free radical production and antioxidant consumption which leads insufficient defense system, these free radicals attack lipids, proteins and nucleic acid, when causes genetic mutation leading to the breaking of DNA strands and cell death<sup>25,26</sup>. Also a 900 MHz EMF application adversely influenced the learning behavior of female pups

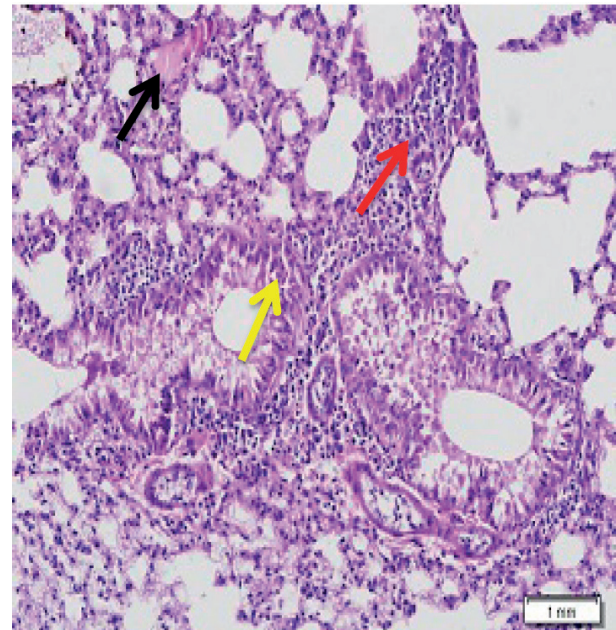


**Figure 2.** Shows heart tissue with marked degeneration of cardiomyocytes (yellow star) and dilated interstitial spaces (red star) (H&E stain x200).

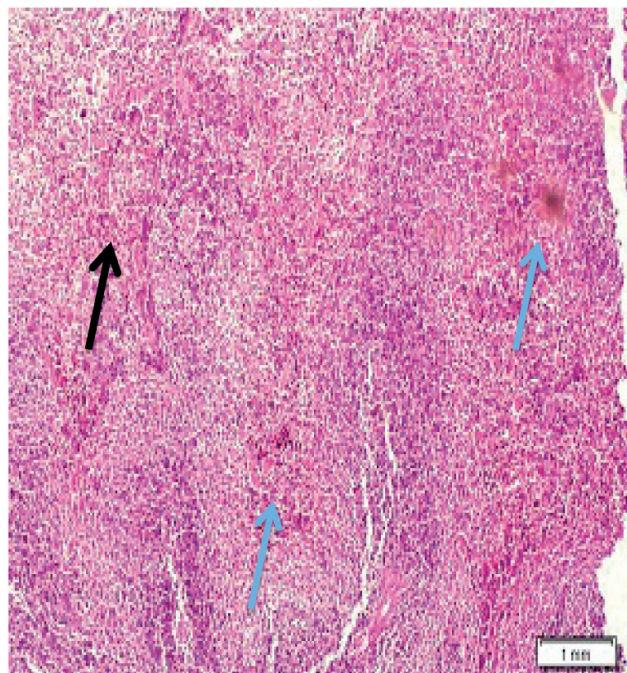




**Figure 3.** Showed lung tissue with marked lymphocyte infiltration (red arrow), edematous interstitial spaces and thickened alveolar walls (yellow arrow) (H&Ex400).



**Figure 4.** Shows lung tissue with edematous interstitial spaces and thickened alveolar walls (yellow arrow), marked lymphocytic infiltrate (red arrow) and congestion (black arrow) (H&Ex200).



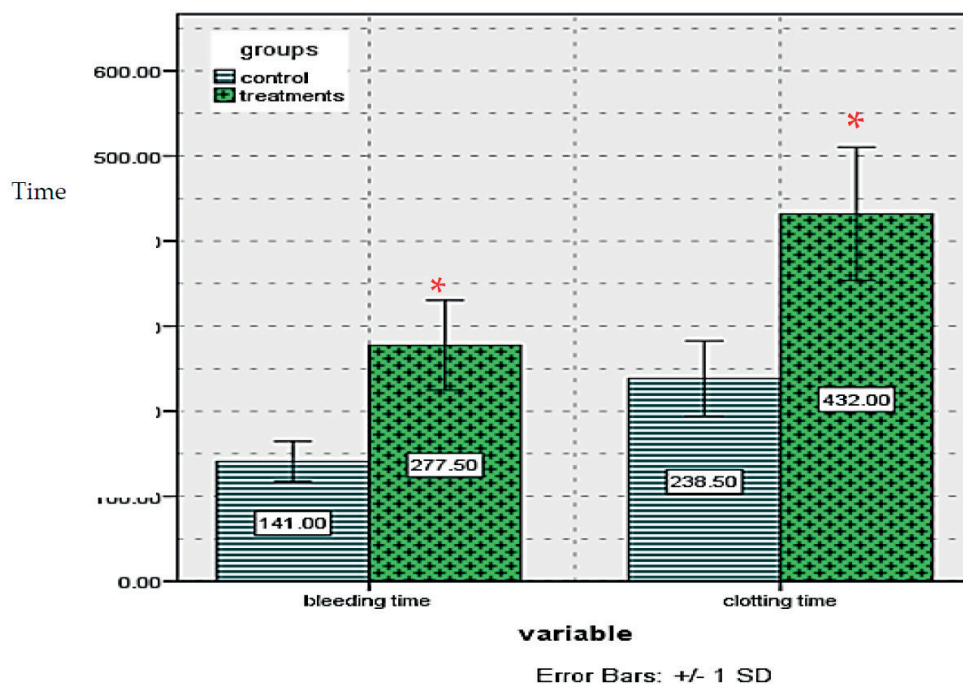
**Figure 5.** Shows spleen tissue with congestion (blue arrow) and a mild increase in red pulp area necrosis in white pulp (black arrow) (H&Ex100).

in the prenatal period and also resulted in histopathological changes occurring in the hippocampus<sup>27</sup>. Histological changes can be due to the formation of free radicals through exposure to EMF, which in turn targets membrane lipids and changes their nature by breaking protein bonds<sup>22</sup>. A study on workers, welders and computer operation exposed to EMW found increased RBC, MCV and platelets due to critical change in the erythropoiesis system<sup>5</sup>. The present study, in agreement with (28), saw an increase in RBC, MCV and platelets. At the same time, a decrease in WBC, Hb and lymphocytes cell may be related to the effect of EMW on shortening cell cycles and increasing the synthesis of DNA. Another study found an increase in RBC and platelets correlated to the impact of EMW that causes stimulated division of stem cells in the bone marrow and increases immature

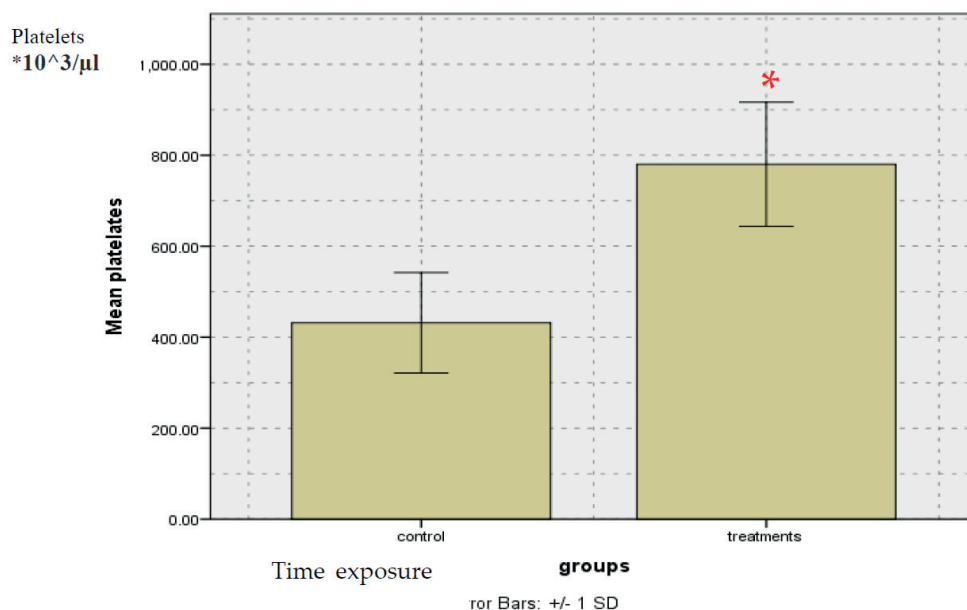
reticulocyte cells<sup>29</sup>. Results were found to increase bleeding and clotting time, and these deal with (12) who attributed these increase to the following reasons the first one, The increase in body temperature reduces blood viscosity, which eventually contributes to an increase in blood clotting time. The second, enzymatic chains or hormones experimentally affected the strength of the electromagnetic field can created around the outside of the cell wall and pull the ions to the opposite directions<sup>30</sup>.

## Conclusions

The effects of EMF on living tissues have been proven beyond a shadow of a doubt, and the level of damage is



**Figure 6.** Showed bleeding, clotting time of treatment and control male mice after exposure to electromagnetic waves from mobile phone.



**Figure 7.** Showed platelets counts of treatment and control male mice after exposure to electromagnetic waves from mobile phone\*= significant differences ( $p \leq 0.0001$ ).

directly proportional to the magnetic field strength, time of exposure, and kind of tissue exposed.

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#### Ethical approval

The research related to human use has complied with all the relevant national regulations and institutional policies and, following the tenets of the Helsinki Declaration, has been approved by the author's institutional review board or equivalent committee. Project no. 1025 was approved on January 20th, 2019.

#### Conflicts of Interest

The authors declare they have no conflict of interest.

#### Informed consent statement

Informed consent has been obtained from all individuals included in this study.

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