

The Unexpected Always Happens

*A painful lesson for the notorious slanderer Alexander Lerchl,
and even more for industry and politics who used his 'expertise' for many years*

JBS Haldane¹, a great person and scientist, summarized his experiences in life in one sentence: "The unexpected always happens". How right he was in this statement has just been proven by Professor Alexander Lerchl from the private Jacobs University in Bremen. Lerchl, as a member of the German Commission on Radiological Protection looked after the interests of government and industry for many years while making a mockery of radiation protection and insulting scientists like Lennart Hardell and myself as forgers because our research results were not in line with his, all the sudden has published a paper that refutes all he has claimed so far.

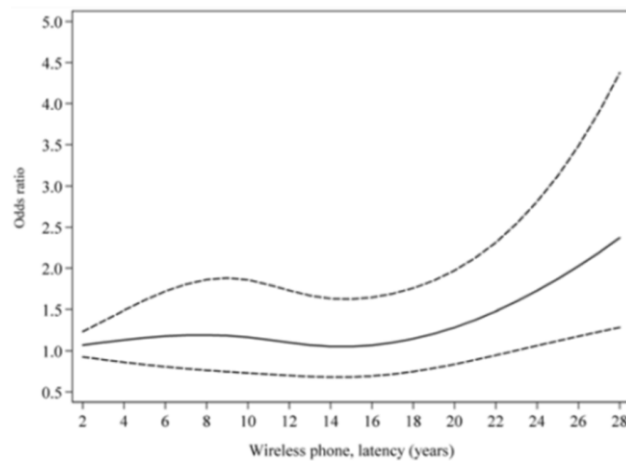
In my article "The Endorsement of Safety by the German Mobile Telecommunication Research Programme (DMF) Regarding the Health Risks of Mobile Phone Radiation is Based Rather on Wishful Thinking than Facts" in one of the Competence Initiative's brochures, I wrote in 2008 [1]:

"A not-yet-published study from the Fraunhofer Institute of Toxicology and Experimental Medicine in Hannover, which was presented at a workshop in Berlin in May 2008, holds profound implications for the future. In this study, it was demonstrated that in the sense of tumour initiation UMTS radiation shows only a rather small genotoxic effect in mice, but in the case of tumour promotion quite a pronounced epigenetic effect could be observed. When mice were treated prenatally with N-ethylnitrosourea, UMTS radiation well below current safety levels caused a significant increase in the tumour rate of liver and lung above the expected rate for N-ethylnitrosourea alone. This effect occurred when RF radiation exposure was started in utero immediately after administering N-ethylnitrosourea and continued for the entire life span of the animals. The UMTS radiation exposure by itself only resulted in the development of precancerous lesions in the animals' livers."

This study was published in 2010 by Tillmann et al. [2] and despite its tremendous scientific significance it nearly fell into oblivion. However, it was left to Lerchl, a vociferous preacher of the harmlessness of mobile communication radiation, to repeat the Fraunhofer experiments with funding from the German Federal Office for Radiation Protection. The results obtained and reviewed by numerous people have been so definitive that from the very beginning a cover up has been impossible. Therefore, Lerchl, who until now has succeeded to present his results to be in line with his customers' expectations by inept experimental design, manipulative interference in the course of the experiments, and arbitrary data analysis [3], has had to take the bull by the horns. He admits, that the effects on liver and lung published by the Fraunhofer Institute have been fully confirmed. He still denies the genotoxic potential of UMTS radiation, which Tillmann et al. observed in addition to the promoting effect, but it is only a matter of time until he has to admit that he is wrong here also.

As Lerchl recognized, his recent results are bound to have the potential to explain at least in part, the repeatedly documented increase in brain tumour risk among extensive and long-term mobile phone users [4]. In his presentation at the Competence Initiative's workshop on long-term risks of mobile communication in Wuerzburg on April 5, 2014, Lennart Hardell showed the following graph [5]:

¹ British scientist (1892-1964), lecturer for biochemistry in Cambridge and then professor for physiology at the Royal Institution, was one of the most brilliant scientific popularisers



The solid line shows the increase of malignant brain tumours among mobile and cordless phone users as a function of duration. The early rather low peak seems to point to the radiation-induced accelerated growth of an existing tumour that has not yet been diagnosed. The next peak starting after a latency of about 16 years can only be explained by the tumour initiating effect of the radiation taking place decades before diagnosis. The broken lines show the 95% confidence interval and indicate the range in which an increase of the brain tumour risk can be expected.

It remains to be seen if industry and government can finally acknowledge that their longstanding chief witness to the harmlessness of mobile communication radiation can hardly play this role any longer the way they want him to. Therefore, the outcome of his research project—seen by Lerchl without doubt as a super DBA—should finally be reason enough for the officials in government responsible for the radiation protection of the people to consider how mobile communication technology can be adapted to human nature. With all the scientific evidence in hand, to continue in the opposite direction can only end up as a disaster for many people today and in the years to come.

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