Author's response to reviews

Title: Non-specific physical symptoms in relation to actual distance and perceived proximity to mobile phone base stations and powerlines.

Authors:

Christos Baliatsas (Christos.Baliatsas@rivm.nl)
Irene Van Kamp (irene.van.kamp@rivm.nl)
Gert Kelfkens (Gert.Kelfkens@rivm.nl)
Maarten Schipper (maarten.schipper@rivm.nl)
John Bolte (John.Bolte@rivm.nl)
Joris Yzermans (J.Yzermans@nivel.nl)
Erik Lebret (erik.lebret@rivm.nl)

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Dear Dr Norton,

The scientific debate continues about the possible role of electromagnetic fields (EMF) on the one hand and psychological factors on the other hand on the occurrence of non-specific physical symptoms. So far little epidemiological research has been published on the role of psychological factors in the report of these symptoms. BMC Public Health is a journal that significantly contributes to the understanding of the behavioral and environmental determinants of health and disease and with our manuscript that we are submitting to you for publication entitled “Non-specific physical symptoms in relation to actual distance and perceived proximity to mobile phone base stations and powerlines”, we expect to contribute to this understanding.

The current study aims to simultaneously assess the contribution of psychological factors together with proxies for EMF exposures. To our knowledge, it is the first one to consider the effects of actual distance and perceived proximity to base stations and powerlines, in combination with components such as perceived environmental sensitivity, coping strategies and perceived control in a large population sample.

The work, including all of the text, tables and figures, is original, has not been previously published and is not under consideration for publication elsewhere. There are no conflicts of interest. All authors have read the manuscript, agree that the work is ready for submission and accept responsibility for the manuscript’s contents. We hope that you will consider this paper for review and we look forward to your response.

Yours sincerely, on behalf of my co-authors,

Christos Baliatsas
Institute for Risk Assessment Sciences, Utrecht University.
Corresponding address: National Institute for Public Health and the Environment (RIVM)
P.O. box 1, 3720 BA
Bilthoven, The Netherlands