www.next-up.org Source : <u>http://www.vrtnieuws.net/nieuwsnet\_master/versie2/nieuws/details/070313gsmbijkinderen/index.shtml</u>



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Interview : <u>Vidéo 1 VTM Pr Stefaan Van Gool</u>

Vidéo 2 Dr George Carlo

## Pediatricians call for a ban of mobile phones for children

- A group of Flemish pediatricians has started a campaign to stop children under 16 years of age from using mobile phones. That's according to a report by the daily Het Laatste Nieuws.

The Association "Beperk de straling" (Keep irradiation's down) calls through a petition for a ban of mobile phones for children and teenagers under the age of 16. The petition has already be signed by over 30 pediatricians.



Various pediatric departments in hospitals have posters on display to warn parents against the dangers of mobile phones.

Michèle Verboven, one of the pediatricians who took the initiative, says "**it's almost 100% sure that mobile phones pose a serious health threat to children.**"

Until the age of 16 years, the brain of children is particularly vulnerable.

"Mobile phones are no toys, and yet parents are left in ignorance in connection with the dangers", said Jan Allein, another forefront runner in the campaign.

The Flemish Association of Pediatricians will consider the issue this week and is expected to take a common stand on the matter.

## Behavior disturbances and brain tumours

Scientific research increasingly shows a link between the use of mobile phones and a disorder in brain activity among children (<u>Hemato-Encephalic Barrier</u>).

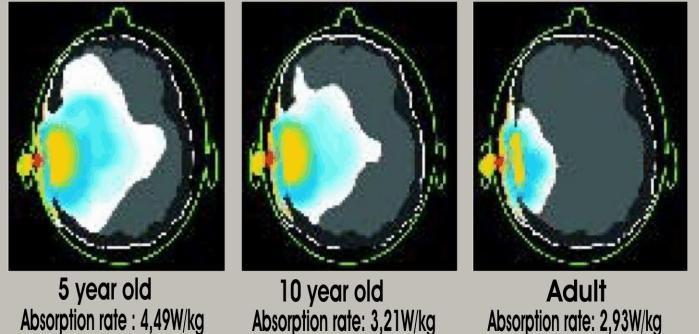
According to the latest studies carried out in Spain, a brain function disorder can cause an immunity lapse.

The children's ability to learn could also be affected, as well as the mental health of the child. The latter could result in headaches, sleeping problems, concentration lapses and deviant behaviour including depression and aggression.

Swedish research proved that radiation emitted by mobile phones reaches the interior of children's brains. This could result in the development of brain tumours in the long run.

Gandhi O.P., Lazzi G., Furse C.M. (1996 vol.44, p1884-1897): Electromagnetic Absorption in the human Head and Neck for Mobile Telephones at 835MHz and 1900MHz

How mobil phone radiation penetrates the brain



Fort a absorption rate of 2,93 W/kg of power absorptive by an adult : This same power will produce a absorption rate of 3,21 W/kg for a 10 year old child and absorption rate of 4,49 W/Kg for a 5 year old child.

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