LA Times: The Two Sides of the EMF Controversy

February 14, 2010

Tomorrow's *Los Angeles Times* features a package of four stories on the EMF–health controversy:
• "On Different Wavelengths over EMFs"
• "Victims of Electrosensitivity Syndrome Say EMFs Cause Symptoms"
• "Electromagnetic Field Studies Reach Different Conclusions"
• "How Strong Are Different Magnetic Fields?"

Chris Woolston, the *Times* reporter, does not take a stand, leaving the usual cast of scientists to voice their now well-known opinions. On the there's-nothing-to-worry-about side:
• NCI's Martha Linet: She says studies so far suggest a weak connection [between EMFs and cancer], so weak that it might not exist at all.
• University of Pennsylvania's Ken Foster: "You have a whole population of people that are scared to death of electromagnetic fields; People latch on to fears that mainstream science doesn't take seriously."
• Robert Park, the former DC rep of the American Physical Society: "I don't understand how anyone with a knowledge of science could believe this stuff."
And, on the side favoring precaution:
• New York's Institute for Health and Environment's David Carpenter: "It's apparent now that there's a real risk; The evidence is growing stronger every day."
• Cleveland Clinic's Ashok Agarwal: Agarwal says there's not enough evidence to tell men with fertility problems to give up their cellphones, although he personally believes that spending 10 hours a day on the phone isn't exactly a fertility-friendly lifestyle, radiation or no.

No sign anywhere of a meeting of the minds.

Los Angeles Times, Martha Linet, Ken Foster, Robert Park, David Carpenter, Ashok Agarwal,

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