

Interestingly, Panda *et al.* recently found that some people who used mobile phones for more than 30 minutes per day had absent DPOAEs, and that this could occur in either ear.¹⁴ In contrast, other studies reported no deterioration in DPOAE measurement parameters after electromagnetic field exposure.^{4,6,9} Similarly, our study found no alteration in DPOAE parameters following Bluetooth device usage, either in standby mode (6 hours) or active mode (10 minutes).

Some drawbacks of our study should be mentioned. We did not monitor our volunteers' compliance during the 6 hour period of Bluetooth standby usage. In addition, our sample size was limited to only 30 participants. Our study was designed as a pilot study to investigate the effects of acute, short term exposure to the electromagnetic field of a Bluetooth headset device; thus, our results give no information on long term or cumulative effects. Further studies are needed to determine whether prolonged and/or repeated exposure causes adverse effects.

Conclusion

Exposure to the electromagnetic field emitted from a Bluetooth headset device, in standby mode for 6 hours and in active mode for 10 minutes, does not cause any measurable hearing effects, as assessed by high frequency PTA and DPOAE measurement.

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CORRIGENDUM

Effects of Bluetooth device electromagnetic field on hearing: pilot study – CORRIGENDUM

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In this paper, the second author's name was shown as N Prepagaran.

It should read N Prepagaran.

Reference

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