Who is Martin Pall?

Martin Pall, PhD is a Professor Emeritus in Biochemistry and Basic Medical Science from Washington State University and is one of the planet’s leading experts on the health effects of wireless radiation on human health. While the information presented below deals with some of the more technical scientific aspects of his work, aspects which may sound rather opaque to those unfamiliar with this field of knowledge, such details nonetheless help to establish his scientific credibility on this subject.

In 2013, Martin Pall’s research interests began to move into a slightly new direction from that he had previously been taking. This came about as a result of looking at the biochemical connections between Nitric Oxide (NO) formation in the body, and how it reacted with another free radical called superoxide (\(^{\cdot} \text{OO}\)) to form peroxynitrite – a potent non-radical oxidant – which was suspected of playing a role in the progression of heart failure. This caused him to consider the impacts of this interacting system on the elevation of cytosolic calcium ions \([\text{Ca}^{2+}]\). This in turn serendipitously set the stage for him branching off into investigating Voltage-Gated Calcium Channels (VGCCs) on cell membranes and the impact electro-magnetic fields (EMFs) might have on their function. As a result, he came to see that increasing exposures to EMFs increased the pathophysiological effects of the Nitric Oxide/superoxide system causing the formation of peroxynitrite, and thus its many harmful effects (see).

As technical as the foregoing may seem, the effective bottom line implications of Pall’s VGCCs research findings was that science finally had a very definitive mechanism of action through which exposures from EMF sources such as WiFi, cordless phones, cell phones, cell phone towers and even wireless smart meters, could be explained, despite previous and ongoing vociferous claims by the wireless industry to the contrary.

In terms of science, this was one of those rare watershed moments where the potential of our society moving from one paradigm of understanding to another took definitive root. Indeed, the significance of Pall’s discovery is akin to that of Galileo after he had observed moons orbiting Jupiter with his telescope in 1609, an observation that helped cement a paradigm shift in our view of our planetary system being sun centered and not Earth centered as was once thought. Yet like any good scientific revolutions, just as Galileo encountered significant resistance to his ideas from the church in his day, today Martin Pall is encountering similar resistance from many within many of our own “modern” institutions of higher learning, particularly those receiving large research grant sums from the telecom industry, such as UBC, SFU and the University of Victoria. Moreover, there is little doubt that our society’s now widely entrenched common false belief that wireless technology is entirely safe to use, which includes many insufficiently informed scientists and law makers, is only compounding the challenge.

Nonetheless, in April 2015, Martin Pall began to receive some measure of notoriety within the scientific and political community when an article he wrote effectively invalidated Health Canada’s “Safety Code 6”, the Canadian government’s archaic radio-frequency radiation safety standard that is solely premised on the thermal heating of tissue rather than on any of its impacts on living cells and their relatively sensitive electro-chemical inner functions. His piece appeared in the Reviews on Environmental Health (see).

As with Galileo, Pall’s paper also became a pivotal one in delegitimizing the overall findings of the House of Commons Standing Committee on Health in its supposedly comprehensive 2015 review of the effects of radio-frequency radiation on living systems, which included Safety Code 6. Of course, Martin Pall was not alone in his critical view. Many within the scientific community were equally dismayed with the Health Committee’s report when it was issued in June of 2015, when no significant action to tighten the restrictions on EMFs from cell phones, WiFi

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and other wireless technology was recommended despite clear scientific evidence suggesting that a diminution of exposure levels to these kinds of EMFs was warranted. This sentiment was echoed in a Canadian Medical Association Journal article in June of 2015 entitled: “Scientists decry Canada’s outdated Wi-Fi safety rules” (see). It is also important to point out here that the Government of Canada’s formal response to the House report that same year by the then newly appointed Minister of Health, Jane Philpott, also failed to tighten Safety Code 6 restrictions.

She wrote, likely with the assistance of her departmental officials: “To date, thousands of scientific studies have been carried out globally to evaluate the safety of RF EMF. The results from these and ongoing studies have informed the development of Canadian and international human exposure limits. Human exposure limits to RF EMF have existed in Canada and internationally for over 30 years. These exposure limits have taken into account the latest scientific information on established health effects of RF EMF and have incorporated large safety margins for the avoidance of such health effects.”

The last statement made in this paragraph is effectively scientifically false. Martin Pall’s two more recent papers reinforce the view that Health Canada’s Safety Code 6 not only remains a scientifically fraudulent standard, but one that is likely aimed at protecting the wireless industry’s economic interests, thus placing private profits ahead of both human and environmental health concerns. His September 2016 paper “Microwave frequency electromagnetic fields (EMFs) produce widespread neuropsychiatric effects including depression” speaks to the increase in addictive behaviours in youth and cognitive decline disorders (see). And his more recent July 2018 paper “WiFi is an important threat to human health” speaks very directly to the oxidative stress burdens that WiFi emissions place on living organisms, burdens that can lead not only to an uptick in voltage-gated calcium channel activation, but to an increase in heart arrhythmias, a reduction in sperm count and testicular damage, and a higher downstream probability of various cancers and an aggravation of diabetic management (see).

Given the stakes involved, Dr. Pall is now heavily committed to science advocacy work aimed at educating the general public about the health hazards associated with wireless technology in all of its forms.

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