

AHS WiFi Safety

- Alberta Health Services is committed to protecting the health and safety of our staff, visitors and patients.
- AHS abides by Health Canada Safety Code 6 (HCSC 6), a guideline for recommended human exposure limits to radiofrequency (RF) electromagnetic energy, the kind of energy given off by various electronic devices such as cell phones and Wi-Fi, as well as broadcasting and cell phone towers.
- Health Canada's guidelines are based on extensive research.
- Health Canada recommended limits for human exposure to non-ionizing radiofrequency (RF) in the 3Khz to 300 GHz range.
- AHS wireless networks and supporting equipment emit RF at a level well below the HCSC6 limit.

Why Health Canada Safety Code 6?

- There are many studies, opinions, and sources of information about the risks and safe exposures limits to RF energy, and Health Canada conducts exhaustive study and review of such sources in defining standards designed to protect the health of Canadians.

(Canadians') health is protected from radiofrequency fields by the human exposure limits recommended in Safety Code 6. Health Canada has established and maintains a general public exposure limit that incorporates a wide safety margin and is therefore far below the threshold for potentially adverse health effects. The Department continues to monitor and analyze scientific research on this issue and, should new scientific evidence arise demonstrating that exposure to radiofrequency fields poses a health risk to Canadians, Health Canada will take the appropriate action to safeguard the health of Canadians.

- The limits recommended by Health Canada are more stringent than the limits set by two of the most widely recognized international organizations to have published on this topic:
 - the International Commission on Non-Ionizing Radiation Protection (ICNIRP)
 - the Institute of Electrical and Electronics Engineers (IEEE) C95.1-2005 – Standard for Safety Levels with Respect to Human Exposure to Radio Frequency Electromagnetic Fields, 3 kHz to 300 GHz)
- Summarized from Health Canada information: <https://www.canada.ca/en/health-canada/services/environmental-workplace-health/consultations/2015-revisions-safety-code-6-summary-consultation-feedback.html>

AHS monitors RF emitted by wireless networks and equipment

- The management system for our wireless network continually monitors the RF output of all of our wireless access points and continually adjusts the power output of each one. We monitor maps of our facilities which show in real time what RF levels are at our sites.

Questions?

- **Patients, families and other visitors:** Please contact Patient Relations
- **Safety Code 6 requirements:** If you have questions or concerns on the research regarding RF please contact Health Canada directly:
email: info@hc-sc.gc.ca
phone: 1-866-225-0709

FAQs

Q: Do our RF limits protect people in our facilities regardless of age or size?

AHS networks and equipment are well below the limits set by Safety Code 6. Health Canada advises:

- The Safety Code 6 limits for human exposure to RF fields are designed to provide protection for all age groups, including small children.
Source: <https://www.canada.ca/en/health-canada/services/environmental-workplace-health/consultations/2015-revisions-safety-code-6-summary-consultation-feedback.html>

Q: Has AHS considered the cumulative effects of being exposed to RF on a continuous basis throughout the work week?

AHS is guided by Health Canada Safety Code 6, which considers possible health effects from cumulative exposure to RF emitted at or below their safety threshold. Health Canada advises:

The Safety Code 6 limits for human exposure to RF fields are designed to provide protection for all age groups, including children, on a continuous (24 hours a day/seven days a week) basis.

This means that if someone, including a small child, were to be exposed to RF fields from multiple sources for 24 hours a day, 365 days a year, within the Safety Code 6 limits, there would be no adverse health effects.

At present, there is no scientific basis for the occurrence of acute, chronic and/or cumulative adverse health risks from RF field exposure at levels below the limits outlined in Safety Code 6.

Source: <https://www.canada.ca/en/health-canada/services/environmental-workplace-health/consultations/2015-revisions-safety-code-6-summary-consultation-feedback.html>