

MOBILE PHONES AS RESERVOIRS OF BACTERIA: A REVIEW

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ABSTRACT

Mobile phones culminate the features of many devices such as cameras and laptops, into a single device, which is probably the reason for their widespread popularity. These devices have made immense contributions to the field of communication.

Mobile phones have recently come under scrutiny as they may act as ‘Trojan Horses’ and serve as vectors of disease causing organisms. The issue of mobile phones harboring pathogenic bacteria is even more pronounced in the healthcare setup as these devices may play an active role in the dissemination of nosocomial or hospital acquired infections.

It is suggested that people, especially those working in sensitive areas such as hospitals, should follow good hygienic practice and try to wash their hands after using mobile phones. It is also recommended that mobile phones should be decontaminated regularly.

Mobile phone manufacturers should provide a procedure to decontaminate mobile phones and also create awareness among the public.

KEYWORDS: Bacteria, Disease, Hospital, Mobile Phones