



Faculty of Allied Medical Sciences



Microbial Contamination of Mobile Phones among Medical and Non-medical Population in the Community of Alexandria

Participating students:

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Under supervision of:

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Project summary:

Project idea:

Mobile phones are used worldwide by medical practitioners, paramedics and non-medicals even during working hours and without any restrictions, regardless of their expected high microbial load. Therefore, mobile phones are likely to get contaminated by various microorganisms, some of which could be pathogenic in nature and multiple drug-resistant at times. Thus, mobile phones stand as a risk factor of spread of infection among different sectors of the community.

Project phases:

1. Construction of relevant information sheet covering the demographic data, hygiene habits in relation to use of mobile.
2. Sampling of 100 mobile phones belonging to medical and non-medical sectors of the community.
3. Culture of swabs taken from mobile phones on appropriate culture media and full identification of isolates using Gram stain, set of biochemical reactions and antibiotic sensitivity testing.
4. Counting the number of isolated bacteria on tested mobile phones simultaneously using two techniques: pour plate and surface spread techniques.
5. Statistical analysis of data and reporting the significance of different parameters on our results.

Project aim:

- Investigating the bacterial contamination of mobile phones among a group of health care workers and non-health care population.
- Comparing the results of surface spread technique versus those of pour plate technique in determining the bacterial count on tested phones.
- Announce for the importance of cleaning and sterilizing mobile phones as well as washing hands after using the phone.