**Original article:**

**Mobile phones: Potential Threat in Infection Control**

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**Abstract:**

**Introduction:** Today cell phones are indispensable accessories both professionally and socially. But they also play role as perfect substrate for microorganisms and may serve as vehicles in transmitting nosocomial infections.Present study aimed to address this issue by screening for bacterial pathogens on mobile phones of doctors employed in a teaching hospital in Medak.

**Methodology:** 74 cell phones of doctors in various clinical and nonclinical departments were screened for bacterial isolates with sterile cotton swabs and subjected to culture using BHI Broth and identified by conventional methods.

**Results:** revealed high percentage (91.8) of bacterial contamination. 51.3% of mobile phones showed polymicrobial growth. Isolates included pathogens like Staphylococcus aureus, Enterococci, Escherichia coli, Klebsiella, and Pseudomonas.These results showed that doctors’ mobile phones are contaminated and their use can pose a potential threat in dissemination of infectious pathogens.

**Conclusion:** Development of effective preventive strategies such as regular decontamination of mobile phones with disinfectant and hand hygiene can help reduce the burden of contamination.

**Keywords:** Cell phones, bacterial isolate