

IARC Summer School in Cancer Epidemiology **20 June to 8 July 2011**

The **aim** of the IARC Summer School is to stimulate research in cancer epidemiology by improving scientific knowledge and developing skills among researchers worldwide. Special attention is given to countries where resources for the control of chronic diseases in general and cancer in particular are limited. By helping to develop local expertise in cancer epidemiology and by strengthening research institutions through international collaborations, IARC aims to enhance cancer prevention.

Target participants

Ideal candidates are epidemiologists, statisticians, physicians and oncologists, public health specialists and others with a direct interest in working in cancer epidemiology or registration, particularly in low- and medium-resource countries. The programme aims to provide training for personnel at all levels of experience, leaders in research as well as supporting workers. Participants will be accepted from any institution or group involved in cancer monitoring, in the evaluation of care practices and preventive interventions, or in etiological research.

Equipment and material

Participants will be provided with manuals and textbooks, personal computers and software as required during the course.

Practical sessions and demonstration exercises will make use of widely available software. IARC is committed to assisting participants with obtaining such software for use in their home institute.

Programme

The Summer School is organized in modules.

All lectures are complemented with practical sessions and group work.

Two modules will be held from **20 June to 8 July**. The first module (Cancer Registration: Principles and Methods) lasts one week and the second module (Introduction to Cancer Epidemiology) two weeks.

CANCER REGISTRATION: Principles and Methods (*one week, 20–24 June*) is a basic element of cancer control, making possible the rational use of resources as well as the identification of areas in need of research. In many parts of the world, cancer registries provide the only source of information on the size, nature and evolution of the local cancer problem.

The course covers all relevant aspects of data collection, coding and analysis:

- Sources of information, case-finding and methods of data abstraction;

- Classification of tumours and coding according to ICD and ICD-O;
- Quality control, measures of comparability, standard definitions according to **IACR** <http://www.iacr.com.fr/>;
- Data analysis and reporting

Training in the implementation of all registry functions by means of the IARC CANREG –5 software is an integral part of this program.

INTRODUCTION TO CANCER EPIDEMIOLOGY (*two weeks, 27 June–8 July*)

The course will focus on the practical application of epidemiological principles and methods to the various cancer control activities, ranging from the search for the causes of cancer to the implementation and evaluation of control programmes.

- Introduction to biostatistics
- Measures of occurrence and association
- Descriptive epidemiological studies in cancer surveillance and research
- Standardization
- Cross-sectional, cohort and case-control studies
- Bias and confounding
- Interaction
- Topics in cancer epidemiology
- Cancer prevention

Participation requirements

The regular modules are open to cancer registry staff, health workers, health-related professionals and post-graduate students interested in initiating or pursuing work on cancer epidemiology and related disciplines. Priority is given to applicants from countries in greatest need of developing human resources in the area of cancer epidemiology.

All participants must be fluent in English, the working language of the course.

Participants may take one or two modules and may return in different years to take different modules.

Please note that this is an intensive course with homework assignments. The daily schedule is 09:00 to 18:00. Prior to the start of Module 2 participants may wish to familiarise themselves with the course text book, *Cancer Epidemiology: Principles and Methods*, edited by I. Dos Santos Silva, available in pdf format at <http://www.iarc.fr/en/publications/pdfs-online/epi/cancerepi/index.php>

Course Certificate and Assessment

Upon completion of the course, each participant will receive a certificate of participation. There is no formal examination.

Finance

Course Fee: Participants based in the low- and medium-resource countries listed here are exempt from a course fee. For all other participants there is one universal fee of €400 for the course, regardless of how many modules are taken, which includes course materials and tea/coffee at each break. The deadline for payment of the fee is **31 May 2011**.

Participants are responsible for the cost of travel and accommodation. Financial support for travel and accommodation is available for a limited number of participants from low- and medium-resource countries.

Faculty

Lecturers will be a combination of external invited specialists and IARC staff.

Visa and accommodation

Participants are responsible for obtaining a visa to France, if required. IARC will provide them with an invitation letter to facilitate this process. IARC will assist participants in arranging accommodation in student-type residences in Lyon at preferential rates.

DEADLINE FOR APPLICATIONS: 16 JANUARY 2011

For further information, please contact:

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