

28 April 2017

IARC and PAHO host meeting to develop cancer prevention messages for Latin America

IARC and the Pan American Health Organization (PAHO) jointly hosted a meeting in Washington, DC, USA, on 24 and 25 April with representatives from cancer and public health institutions in Latin America and the Caribbean to explore the possibility of developing an evidence-based set of cancer prevention messages targeted to the general population of the region.

The aims of the project include developing cancer prevention tools and providing authoritative advice on how to reduce the personal risk of developing cancer.

The IARC representatives included Drs Joachim Schüz and Carolina Espina from the Section of Environment and Radiation (ENV) and Dr Maribel Almonte from the Section of Early Detection and Prevention (EDP), who previously led a European project on cancer prevention messages: the European Code Against Cancer. The development of cancer prevention messages tailored specifically to Latin America and the Caribbean will be of great benefit to the region and is in line with the Agency's goal ultimately to develop customized recommendations for all the regions of the world.

The next steps will be developing a more detailed project description, establishing a scientific oversight committee, and mobilizing resources. The project secretariat will be provided jointly by PAHO and IARC.