

**Postdoctoral Opportunity**  
**IARC - SECTION OF INFECTIONS**

A postdoctoral opportunity is immediately available for an epidemiologist/biostatistician at the International Agency for Research on Cancer (IARC). The Infections and Cancer Epidemiology (ICE) Group has developed expertise in quantitative and statistical methods to evaluate the possible determinants of sudden changes in cancer incidence, with the aim of informing prevention strategies for cancer. These objectives have been achieved through collaborations across the Agency as well as internationally, using a multidisciplinary approach.

Incidence rates of certain cancers, for instance thyroid cancer, increased dramatically in the recent past, even though mortality rates remained substantially unchanged. A large fraction of these increases have been attributed to the widespread use of sensitive detection techniques which, along with intensified surveillance, may lead to the identification of asymptomatic, non-lethal small cancers that would not have caused symptoms or death during a persons' lifetime. This phenomenon is called overdiagnosis of cancer and among its consequences are unnecessary treatment, psychological harm and waste of resources on unnecessary care. The aim of the present project is to improve the knowledge on the clinical, human and economic costs associated with overdiagnosis of cancer, particularly focussing on thyroid cancer overdiagnosis and on areas and countries mostly affected by it.

Candidates with a strong quantitative/statistical background, experience in descriptive epidemiology of cancer incidence and mortality, cancer registry data, including trends and projections of cancer rates, and experience with statistical analysis techniques, such as age-period-cohort models, time series analyses etc, are encouraged to apply.

The postdoctoral opportunity is initially for one year with possibility of extension. The IARC stipend is currently € 2,820 per month. The cost of travel for the Postdoc, and in certain circumstances for dependants, will be met, a dependant's allowance paid, and health insurance covered.

Applicants should send a CV, including list of publications and a description of previous research experience, as well as the names and addresses of two academic referees, preferably by email to Dr Salvatore Vaccarella: [vaccarella@iarc.fr](mailto:vaccarella@iarc.fr) .