

3 September 2018

## Professor Supanee Promthet (11 September 1957 – 29 August 2018)



The International Agency for Research on Cancer (IARC) is deeply saddened by the passing of Professor Supanee Promthet (formerly Sriamporn), a long-standing friend and collaborator of the Agency, who died on Wednesday 29 August 2018. Our deepest sympathy goes to her family.

Supanee was born in Nam Phong, in north-east Thailand, on 11 September 1957 and was a distinguished international epidemiologist, cancer researcher, and teacher. After graduating in Nursing at Khon Kaen University in 1980, she completed an M.Sc. in Epidemiology at Mahidol University (Bangkok) in 1990 and a Doctor of Philosophy in Epidemiology at the University of Tampere, in Finland, in 2003.

Dr Promthet began work at the Cancer Unit of Khon Kaen University in 1985 and was instrumental in the founding of the Khon Kaen Cancer Registry in 1988. Through this work, she began a collaboration with IARC scientists (Max Parkin and Paola Pisani) at the Unit of Descriptive Epidemiology, initially to establish the registry, which became the basis for many related projects, including case-control studies to elucidate the risk factors for common infection-related cancers in north-east Thailand, the establishment of a population-based cohort study, the interpretation of population-based cancer survival statistics using the Registry database, and the assessment of the delivery and impact of cancer prevention and screening in Thailand. She was a regular visitor to IARC between 1989 and 2004, and an active member of the International Association of Cancer Registries, almost always attending the annual meetings, and hosting the 2000 annual meeting in Khon Kaen. She was a great supporter of developing Asian networks; she served as South-East Asia editor of the *Asian Pacific Journal of Cancer Prevention*, collaborating with Dr Malcolm Moore, the Editor-in-Chief.

In 2004, Dr Promthet joined the Faculty of Public Health at Khon Kaen University, becoming Associate Professor and Vice Dean for Research and Academic Service, and she led a Ph.D. programme from which many students have graduated since 2005.