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## IARC scientist receives award for major contribution to the fight against cancer



Dr Rengaswamy Sankaranarayanan, Special Advisor on Cancer Control and Head of the Early Detection and Prevention Section at the International Agency for Research on Cancer (IARC) today received the 2014 Lalla Salma Foundation International Award.

Her Royal Highness Princess Lalla Salma of Morocco awarded the prize to Dr Sankaranarayanan for his contribution to the early detection and prevention of cervical cancer around the world and in developing countries in particular.

Established in 2008 by the Lalla Salma Foundation, the prize is awarded to scientists of international renown who have made a major scientific discovery or a significant global contribution to the fight against cancer.

Dr Rengaswamy Sankaranarayanan has extensive international experience in evaluating and disseminating a variety of early detection strategies for major cancers (such as cervical, breast, colorectal, and head and neck cancers) and in providing wide-ranging technical assistance in education, training, and organizational aspects of cancer early detection programmes in low- and medium-resource countries.

Through IARC's Screening Group and Early Detection and Prevention Section, Dr Sankaranarayanan has conducted several studies on the early detection and prevention of cancer worldwide, in collaborative partnership with other international organizations, national institutions, and investigators. These studies have provided the scientific basis for the development of appropriate public health policies of screening for common cancers within a wide range of health care settings, particularly in low- and medium-resource countries. Dr Sankaranarayanan has strong collaborative links with the cervical cancer screening programme in Morocco.

Dr Sankaranarayanan has an MD degree in Radiotherapy and Oncology, and completed postdoctoral training at the University of Pittsburgh and the University of Cambridge. He joined IARC in 1993, after several years of experience in clinical oncology and cancer control in India.

Dr Sankaranarayanan has authored more than 200 papers in international peer-reviewed journals and his manuals on the early detection of cervical cancer have been translated into several languages, including Bengali, Chinese, French, Hindi, Portuguese, Russian, Spanish, Swahili, and Turkish.