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IARC and IACR launch Cancer Incidence in Five Continents, Volume XII online

Lyon, France, 9 October 2023 – The International Agency for Research on Cancer (IARC), in collaboration with the International Association of Cancer Registries (IACR), is pleased to announce the launch of the latest volume (Volume XII) of *Cancer Incidence in Five Continents* (CI5) online. The CI5 series is an exposition of comparable cancer incidence data from all parts of the globe based on the high-quality data made available by population-based cancer registries.

For CI5 Volume XII, 670 population-based cancer registries, covering 812 populations in 104 countries, responded to the call for data, submitting cancer incidence datasets covering the period of diagnosis 2013–2017. After a careful evaluation of the comparability, completeness, and accuracy of each submission by the 16 members of the CI5 Volume XII Editorial Board – which included representation from Africa, the Asia–Pacific region, Europe, and the Americas – Volume XII compiles cancer incidence data from 455 cancer registries, covering 588 populations in 70 countries.

The long-standing collaboration between IARC and IACR serves as a unique source of cancer incidence data from high-quality population-based cancer registries around the world. "CI5 continues to present unique insights into cancer occurrence," says Dr Freddie Bray, Head of the Cancer Surveillance Branch at IARC and lead of the CI5 project. "The extraordinary international variation in cancer incidence rates – whether compared across registry populations or within a registry population over time – continues to provide compelling evidence of the environmental, lifestyle, and infectious origin of many forms of cancer and, by extension, the potential for cancer prevention."

Recording and assessing rates remains a core task of cancer registries today, and it is the function of this collaboration to report registry results using a common format. CI5 continues to be an invaluable resource for cancer research and cancer control worldwide, and it is the primary source of the national (GLOBOCAN) estimates in 185 countries or territories by cancer type, sex, and age group, which are available for online analysis on the IARC Global Cancer Observatory¹.

Each volume of CI5 provides an indication of the status of cancer registration in different countries and world regions. One highlight of Volume XII is the increase in the number of submissions and accepted datasets from China. "This is driven by the country's impressive implementation of increased population coverage of cancer registration," notes IARC Director Dr Elisabete Weiderpass. "The editors of Volume XII also noted the impact of

¹ Ferlay J, Ervik M, Lam F, Colombet M, Mery L, Piñeros M, Znaor A, Soerjomataram I, Bray F (2020). Global Cancer Observatory: Cancer Today. Lyon, France: International Agency for Research on Cancer. Available from: https://gco.iarc.fr/today.

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the COVID-19 pandemic on registry operations; some established population-based cancer registries, particularly those in Central and South America, were unable to submit datasets this time around."

The CI5 Volume XII online database is available on a dedicated website (https://ci5.iarc.who.int/ci5-xii), which contains utilities that enable the comparison of cancer incidence and will be of interest to anyone wishing to better understand the diverse profiles of cancer in different populations. The print version of CI5 Volume XII (IARC Scientific Publication No. 169) is in preparation and will be available for download in PDF format from the IARC Publications website (https://publications.iarc.who.int/).

For more information, please contact

Nicholas O'Connor, Communications Team, at oconnorn@iarc.who.int or IARC Communications, at com@iarc.who.int

The International Agency for Research on Cancer (IARC) is part of the World Health Organization. Its mission is to coordinate and conduct research on the causes of human cancer, the mechanisms of carcinogenesis, and to develop scientific strategies for cancer control. The Agency is involved in both epidemiological and laboratory research and disseminates scientific information through publications, meetings, courses, and fellowships. If you wish your name to be removed from our press release emailing list, please write to com@iarc.who.int.