International Agency for Research on Cancer

World Health Organization

POSTDOCTORAL OPPORTUNITY: DATA ANALYSIS, PROGRAMME EVALUATION AND INFORMATION SYSTEMS FOR CANCER CONTROL

EARLY DETECTION, PREVENTION AND INFECTIONS BRANCH (EPR)

Location: International Agency for Research on Cancer / World Health Organization, Lyon, France

Deadline for applications: 12 June 2026

Duration: 1 year, with possibility of renewal

Stipend: 3,162€ per month (net), with year-end annual review**.**

Contact and Required Documents: Applicants should send a **motivation letter** in English and a **CV**, including list of publications and a description of previous academic and professional experiences, as well as the names and addresses of two referees, by email to: niehause@iarc.who.int with the subject header: **"IARC Postdoctoral Opportunity 05/2026 - Data Analysis, Programme Evaluation and Information Systems for Cancer Control"**

Interested candidates are invited to contact Dr Beatriz Jardim (jardimb@iarc.who.int) for informal enquiries.

The International Agency for Research on Cancer (IARC) is a multi-disciplinary research institute based in Lyon, France. It is an independently funded institution, and a specialized cancer agency of the World Health Organization. The particular focus of IARC is on international collaborative research projects cutting across a wide range of disciplines including cancer epidemiology, aetiology, genomics, carcinogenesis, prevention and early detection.

The Early Detection, Prevention and Infections Branch (EPR) aims to generate evidence on the efficacy, effectiveness and programmatic implementation of different cancer prevention and early detection interventions. The branch also informs guidelines and policies in cancer control.

We are actively seeking a motivated postdoctoral scientist to join our team and contribute to projects in multiple countries. The selected candidate will support the evaluation of ongoing cancer screening programmes, including capacity assessment, governance, readiness for change, and information system as well as the assessment of their integration and impact within health systems.

Project background

This postdoctoral opportunity centres on epidemiological and health systems research in cancer control. The main objectives are to: (1) develop tools and provide guidance to support the evaluation and strengthening of cancer screening and early detection programmes; (2) assess programme performance and monitoring frameworks across different health system contexts; (3) conduct analytic research on cancer early detection,

diagnostic pathways, and programme evaluation, including the translation of evidence into parameters and decision pathways for planning and decision support tools; and (4) contribute to the development and assessment of information systems for cancer control. The role will involve quantitative and epidemiological analysis, evidence-informed parameterisation, the management, cleaning, harmonisation and documentation of complex datasets, and the documentation and evaluation of information system components related to cancer early detection and programme monitoring.

Activities:

The selected candidate will be under the supervision of Dr Beatriz Jardim and Dr Andre Carvalho and will collaborate closely with other members of the team in the following activities, among others:

- Manage, clean, harmonise, and document complex datasets from multicountry studies and programme evaluations.
- Conduct quantitative and epidemiological analyses related to cancer early detection, diagnostic pathways, programme performance, and health service delivery.
- Develop analysis plans, derived variables, indicators, and reproducible analytic workflows.
- Translate scientific and technical evidence into parameters and decision pathways for planning and programme evaluation.
- Contribute to the development and refinement of data-driven tools and analytic frameworks to support cancer control planning and programme evaluation.
- Contribute to the conceptualisation, development, documentation, and assessment of health information systems and related data structures for cancer early detection and cancer control monitoring.
- Interpret and present findings for technical reports, country-level outputs, and presentations for scientific and technical audiences.
- Write scientific reports and manuscripts.
- Collaborate with internal and external partners on data-related and information-system related activities across different contexts.

Your profile:

The successful candidate would ideally have:

- A PhD in Epidemiology, Public Health, Health Informatics, Data Science, Biostatistics, or a related field, completed within the last 5 years, or an MD with a master's or postgraduate qualification in Public Health, Epidemiology, Health Informatics, or a related field.
- Demonstrated training or experience in epidemiological research, quantitative analysis, and evaluation of health programmes, health services or health information systems.
- Strong experience in the management, cleaning, harmonisation, and analysis of complex datasets, ideally including observational, multicountry, or health services data.
- Strong and demonstrable skills in more than one data management and analysis environment, such as R, Stata, and Python.

- Experience with reproducible analytic workflows and clear documentation of data processing and analysis steps.
- Experience in the development, assessment, or support of health information systems, databases, registries, dashboards, or related digital tools would be highly desirable.
- Strong scientific writing skills, with demonstrated ability to draft manuscripts, technical reports, and other scientific or technical outputs.
- Full oral and written proficiency in English.
- Interest or experience in cancer prevention and early detection, including screening, diagnostic pathways, patient navigation, programme evaluation, or information systems for cancer control.
- Experience with programming for dashboards, web-based analytic tools or data visualisation outputs would be an asset.

We offer:

The postdoctoral scientist will evolve in an innovative and scientifically stimulating environment and will have opportunities to interact and collaborate with colleagues from IARC and its worldwide networks.

The cost of travel for the postdoctoral scientist, and in certain circumstances for dependents, will be met. Dependency and health insurance allowances will be paid, if applicable. IARC postdoctoral scientists are based full-time in Lyon and are expected to be in-person at the office the majority of time, whilst allowing for attractive flexible work arrangements to help promote a healthy work-life balance.

For more information about postdoctoral stays at IARC, please read the Postdoctoral charter. For more information about IARC/Early Career and Visiting Scientists at IARC, please consult IARC's Welcome Pack and ECVS Frequently Asked Questions.

We value diversity:

IARC is committed to achieving gender parity and geographical diversity in its members of Personnel. Applications from people with disabilities, and nationals of low- and middle-income countries are particularly encouraged. IARC currently has more than 400 personnel members from almost 60 countries. Postdoctoral scientists at IARC (about 70, at any point in time) have access to a wide spectrum of scientific disciplines and to a unique network of collaborators across the world.