



Senior Visiting Scientist (on site) opportunity in WHO Classification of Tumours (WCT)

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

Deadline for applications: 30 September 2026

Start date: Early 2027

Duration: Two years (initially)

IARC category eligibility for Senior Visiting Scientist: ongoing scientific affiliation and PhD obtained more than 15 years ago (MD with relevant specialization will also be considered).

Stipend: 4,000 euros per month.

Contact and Required Documents: Applicants should send a **CV** (including list of publications and a description of previous research experience), a **motivation letter** and the names and addresses of **two academic referees**, by email, with a subject header "IARC Senior Visiting Scientist Opportunity "2027", to: Camille Bou (Camille Bou <bouc@iarc.who.int>).

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 Organisation. The particular focus of IARC is international collaborative research projects spanning a wide range of disciplines including cancer epidemiology, aetiology, genomics, carcinogenesis, early detection, prevention and implementation science.

WCT programme produces the WHO Classification of Tumours volumes. It's objective is to produce tumour classifications based on the latest research evidence thus underpinning the diagnosis, epidemiology and further research. WCT programme convenes international, interdisciplinary working groups of expert scientists (editors) to systematically review the pertinent scientific literature to develop consensus evaluation-based classifications. The dedicated WCT team is responsible for the preparation and publication of the WHO Classification of Tumours series (currently in its 6th edition) which are the international standard of histopathological and genetic classification of human neoplasms.

We are actively seeking a highly motivated Senior Visiting Scientist to join our team to contribute to learning and scientific development within the WHO Classification of Tumours programme. In close collaboration with the Head, WCT. The candidate will take part in programme-related activities involving coordination with teams of most senior pathologists and other clinicians worldwide constituting the editorial boards and contributing to the production of WHO Classification of Tumours series and WHO IAC cytology reporting systems. Together with the Cancer Surveillance unit and the International Classification of Disease Codes for Oncology (ICD-O) committee at IARC, the candidate will contribute to ensuring that classified tumour entities are represented as ICDO codes.

Activities:

The selected candidate will be under the supervision of Dr Dilani Lokuhetty, Head, WHO Classification of tumours and will:

- Provide support to the WCT Head in matters related to the WCT programme.
- Provide pathology-related inputs to support the WHO Classification of Tumours series and WHO IAC cytology reporting systems.
- Participate in the development of research-related activities in collaboration with the WCT team (e.g computational pathology methods based on whole slide imaging, systematic reviews etc.) and contribute to the scientific activities of the WCT programme.

Your profile:

Expected competencies:

1. Leadership
2. Teamwork
3. Producing results
4. Communication
5. Respecting & promoting individual and cultural differences

Functional knowledge and skills:

Essential:

- Demonstrable **senior-level leadership experience, preferably with administrative and management skills at institutional/national/international level**
- Diagnostic experience in histopathology using slides or digital images in a clinical setting.
- Research skills including planning, execution, reporting and presentation of research to international conferences and peer-reviewed scientific journals.
- Sustained record of publication of research in scientific journals
- Good record in obtaining competitive research funding

Desirable:

- Diagnostic abilities in cytopathology and molecular pathology.
- Experience in editing pathology/pathology related material.
- Ability to manage related resources and process management skills
- Excellent organizational, and time-management skills with high level of accuracy and attention to detail.
- Ability to meet deadlines.

Education Qualifications:

- PhD/MD with relevant specialization (histopathology) obtained more than 15 years ago
- Training in pathology of cancer, with board certification or fellowship permitting diagnostic histopathology practice.
- Scientific affiliation in cancer genetics, molecular pathology of cancer, or related area

Experience:

Essential: At least fifteen years of progressively responsible and recent experience in diagnostic histopathology in a clinical setting, at a senior level, leading programmes and/or teams, projects, combined at the national and international levels.

Desirable:

- Experience in working in an international environment.
- Experience of senior national and/or international leadership role(s) in pathology, cancer diagnosis, governmental or health service roles

Language Skills

- Expert knowledge of English is essential.
- Working knowledge of French is desirable.

Other Considerations

- Knowledge of Microsoft office 365 office package.
- Onsite presence is preferred. Remote activities may be considered.

We offer:

The Senior Visiting 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 Senior Visiting Scientist will conduct research activities in a modern and invigorating environment. The cost of return travel for the successful candidate, and in certain circumstances for dependents, will be covered.

IARC's Headquarters are in Lyon. The Senior Visiting scientist is expected to be onsite full-time in Lyon.

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 Personnel. Applications from people with disabilities, and nationals of low- and middle-income countries are particularly encouraged. IARC currently has more than 340 personnel members from almost 60 countries. IARC Early Career and Visiting Scientists (approximately 150 at any point in time) have access to a wide spectrum of scientific disciplines and to a unique network of collaborators across the world.