



Vacancy Notice No: IARC/09/FT281

Date: 11 May 2009

Title: Scientist

Deadline for application : **19 June 2009**

Grade: P5

Duty Station: Lyons France

Contract type: Fixed-term appointment

Organization unit: IARC (IARC)  
Section of Nutrition and Metabolism (NME)

Duration of contract: Two years

#### OBJECTIVES OF THE PROGRAMME :

The overall responsibility of the Section of Nutrition and Metabolism (NME) is to investigate, through epidemiological studies, the causes and prevention of cancer in association with diet, obesity, physical inactivity and endogenous hormones. The European Investigation of Cancer (EPIC) is supported and co-ordinated by the Section, in conjunction with its partners on the EPIC Steering Committee. The Section is also responsible for investigating the role of nutrition and metabolism in developing countries and addresses the interface between agriculture and health in this context. The Section has its own laboratory capacity and utilises expertise in biomarkers (exposure, genetic susceptibility and early effect) which are developed and analysed in the Agency's laboratories.

#### Description of duties:

The incumbent will be Head of the Section of Nutrition and Metabolism (NME) and will report to the Director of the Agency, who has overall responsibility for the Agency's programmes. Leadership in the area of nutrition and metabolism is expected from the Head of Section including innovation and strategic planning. The incumbent is responsible for the Agency's activity with respect to development and conduct of epidemiological and other studies on relationships between diet, nutrients, obesity, physical inactivity, endogenous hormone metabolism and cancer risk in developed and developing regions. The importance and consequence of early life exposures is of particular interest. The incumbent is expected to promote collaborative work with investigators outside IARC in the field of nutrition and metabolism. The Section Head is responsible for line-management, including career development, of all staff within the Section. The Section Head is also expected to manage the finances of the Section, from both regular and extra-budgetary sources. The main duties are as follows:

1. To direct and oversee epidemiological studies on indicators of cancer risk in relation to diet, obesity, physical inactivity and endogenous hormones, including early-life events.
2. To develop, in collaboration with other IARC Sections and Groups, relevant biomarkers which permit the understanding of the carcinogenic mechanisms by which the above risk factors influence cancer risk.
3. To co-operate and provide leadership where appropriate, to international collaborative studies, including EPIC and other cohort studies.
4. To identify national research centers for collaboration in implementing study projects, and to plan/implement studies in inter-disciplinary collaborations at IARC and with external research institutions.
5. To oversee administrative matters related to the conduct of research projects, such as obtaining approval from ethical review boards, preparation of requests for funds, and final reporting to funding agencies.
6. To analyze and interpret data from the research projects, present study results to the international research community, and write manuscripts for publication in scientific journals.

7. To undertake duty travel and represent the Agency as required.

8. To carry out other related duties as assigned by the Director.

## REQUIRED QUALIFICATIONS

### Education:

Essential: Doctoral degree in medicine, human biology, or a related field, with training in epidemiological methods.

### Skills:

Demonstrated knowledge of epidemiological methods applied to cancer research, and of nutrition and metabolism. Knowledge of biomarkers in relation to nutrition and metabolism, as well as a basic knowledge of genetics.

Good knowledge of biostatistics in relation to epidemiology.

Demonstrated ability to organize and manage a scientific team including the budgetary aspects.

Ability to attract external competitive research funding.

A working acquaintance with other disciplines within the scope of public health and/or other biological sciences relevant to carcinogenesis would be an asset.

### Required WHO competencies:

#### Ability to:

- to provide leadership to scientific and support staff in the Section;
- to produce and deliver quality results;
- to respect and promote individual and cultural differences, and to work constructively with people of all backgrounds and orientations;
- to be open to and propose new approaches and ideas.

A demonstrated creative scientific ability.

Excellent oral and written communication skills.

### Experience:

Essential: Ten years experience in epidemiology/public health with a demonstrated ability to conduct and supervise research work in nutrition and/or metabolism.

Demonstrated ability to attract research funding from competitive sources.

Sustained publication record with evidence of publishing regularly in the leading journals in epidemiology/public health. Previous supervisory and managerial responsibility in an academic or health service environment.

Desirable: Practical experience with biomarker measurements, including supervising laboratory analyses.

### Languages:

Excellent knowledge of English.

Working knowledge of French and other UN languages would be an asset.

### Additional Information:

PLEASE NOTE THAT A LIST OF PUBLICATION IS COMPULSORY. TO ADD THIS LIST, PLEASE GO TO YOUR PROFILE UNDER ADDITIONAL DOCUMENTS.

CANDIDATES CALLED FOR INTERVIEW MAY BE EXPECTED TO DELIVER A SEMINAR.

Annual salary: (Net of tax)

USD 77 190 at single rate

USD 83 089 with primary dependants

Post Adjustment: 56.7 % of the above figure(s). This percentage is to be considered as indicative since variations may occur each month either upwards or downwards due to currency exchange rate fluctuations or inflation.

---

Online applications are strongly encouraged to enable WHO to store your profile in a permanent database. Please visit WHO's e-Recruitment website at: [www.who.int/employment](http://www.who.int/employment). The system provides instructions for online application procedures.

All applicants are encouraged to apply online as soon as possible after the vacancy has been posted and well before the deadline stated in the vacancy announcement.

---

Applications from women and from nationals of non- and under-represented member states are particularly encouraged.

Any appointment/extension of appointment is subject to WHO Staff Regulations, Staff Rules and Manual. Only candidates under serious consideration will be contacted.

---

### Currently accepting applications



IARC has a smoke-free environment and does not recruit smokers or other tobacco users.