



Vacancy Notice No: IARC/09/FT477

Date: 16 July 2009

Title: Scientist

Deadline for application : **27 August 2009**

Grade: P2

Duty Station: Lyons France

Contract type: Fixed-term appointment

Organization unit: IARC (IARC)  
Section of Mechanisms of Carcinogenesis (MCA) /  
Epigenetics Group (EGE)

Duration of contract: Two years

#### OBJECTIVES OF THE PROGRAMME :

Within the Section of Mechanisms of Carcinogenesis (MCA), the overall objectives of the Epigenetics Group (EGE) are (i) to elucidate the role of epigenetic changes in human cancer, (ii) to investigate epigenetic changes for the mechanistic understanding of cancer development and progression, and (iii) to discover and validate new epigenetic biomarkers that can be used in the development of epigenetics-based strategies for early detection and cancer prevention. EGE aims to exploit the emergence of new concepts involving epigenetic mechanisms in critical cellular processes, early-life exposure and cancer, availability of powerful and cheaper tools for epigenetic/epigenomic analysis, and increasing availability of case-control studies and population-based cohorts.

These objectives are achieved through collaborative studies with a strong international dimension, and integration of molecular biology, epigenomics, and molecular epidemiology in a multidisciplinary approach.

#### Description of duties:

Within the framework of the EGE Group and under the guidance of EGE Group Head, the incumbent is expected to demonstrate leadership in:

- 1) Development, design, and conduct of research projects aiming to better understand the role of epigenetic mechanisms in cancer and to discover/validate epigenetic biomarkers of exposure and tumorigenesis.
- 2) Development of epigenetic methods that are applicable to biobanks associated with population-based studies, including mother/child cohorts.
- 3) Preparation and writing of scientific manuscripts, reviews, and reports based on on-going and future mechanistic and profiling studies.
- 4) Coordination and management of grant applications in the relevant research areas.
- 5) Seeking and developing collaborations with other researchers in the Agency where epigenetic approaches may add value to research projects.
- 6) Providing technical advice and daily supervision to students, visitors and trainees hosted by the EGE Group.
- 7) Assisting in the organization of various scientific and/or technical activities related to on-going and future studies in epigenetics/epigenomics.
- 8) Performing any other related duties as may be assigned by the Supervisor.

#### REQUIRED QUALIFICATIONS

Education:

Advanced university degree (PhD or MD) in molecular biology, genetics, cancer research, or related field.

Skills:

Very good knowledge of molecular biology and genetics in particular with respect to epigenetics and cancer research. Organization and communication skills.

A list of publications in peer-reviewed journals is compulsory.

Required WHO competencies:

Ability to:

- produce and deliver quality results,
- move forward in a changing environment,
- create and empowering and motivating environment

Reliable team member able to respect and promote individual and cultural differences.

Good communication skills

Experience:

Essential:

At least two years of relevant professional experience at the international level in the field of molecular biology, genetics and cancer research.

Experience in international research projects.

Desirable:

Experience in epigenetics and epigenomic profiling would be an asset.

Experience in working with human specimens.

Good publication record in the relevant research area.

Languages:

Excellent knowledge of English and a working knowledge of French.

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 will be expected to deliver a seminar.

Similar positions which arise in the coming six months may be filled from this vacancy notice.

Annual salary: (Net of tax)

USD 44 679 at single rate

USD 47 634 with primary dependants

Post Adjustment: 64,2 % 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.

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A written test may be used as a form of screening

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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.

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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.

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### Currently accepting applications



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