

Vacancy Notice No: IARC/15/FT521

Date: 1 October 2015

Title: Scientist

Application Deadline: 29 October 2015

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: 2 years - Extra-budgetary position established for a limited duration of two (2) years. Any extension subject to availability of extra-budgetary funding.

OBJECTIVES OF THE PROGRAMME :

Within the Section of Mechanisms of Carcinogenesis (MCA), the Epigenetics Group (EGE) conducts both mechanistic studies and epigenetic profiling, aiming to enhance our understanding of mechanisms of carcinogenesis and cancer etiology and to discover and validate new epigenetic biomarkers.

EGE exploits new concepts in cancer epigenetics and recent technological advances in epigenomics. The research is carried out in close collaboration with IARC laboratory scientists, epidemiologists and biostatisticians as well as several external groups, many of which are world leaders in their fields.

EGE's activities can be broadly divided into three major areas: (1) studies aiming to elucidate the mechanistic role of epigenetic changes induced by major risk factors in specific human cancers, (2) studies aiming to investigate epigenetic changes for the mechanistic understanding of cancer development and progression, and (3) studies aiming to discover and validate new epigenetic biomarkers.

Expected outcomes of these studies are improved knowledge of mechanisms of carcinogenesis associated with environmental and lifestyle factors and provision of an evidence base for studies of cancer causation and prevention, the defining elements of IARC's mission.

Description of duties:

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

- 1) Contribute to the 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 cancer.
- 2) Coordinate laboratory experiments related to on-going molecular epidemiology studies and liaise with internal and external groups and networks. Seek and develop collaborations with other researchers in the Agency where epigenetic approaches may add value to research projects.
- 3) Assist in the development of epigenetic methods that are applicable to biobanks associated with population-based studies, including mother/child cohorts.
- 4) Prepare and write scientific manuscripts, reviews, and reports based on on-going and future mechanistic and profiling studies.
- 5) Contribute to writing grant applications in the relevant research areas with a view to attracting research funding from competitive sources.

- 6) Provide technical advice and daily supervision to post-doctoral fellows, students, visitors and trainees hosted by the EGE Group.
- 7) Assist in the organization of various scientific and/or technical activities related to on-going and future studies in epigenomics.
- 8) Perform any other related duties as may be assigned by the Supervisor.

REQUIRED QUALIFICATIONS

Education:

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

Skills:

Functional Skills and Knowledge:

- 1) Applied knowledge in modern molecular/cell biology and (epi)genomics in particular with respect to cancer research.
- 2) Proven ability to write scientific manuscripts and grant applications.
- 3) Good organization and communication skills.

Required WHO Competencies:

- Produce and deliver quality results
- Foster integration and teamwork
- Move forward in a changing environment
- Communicate in a credible and effective way

Experience:

Essential:

At least two years' post-doctoral experience within the field of cancer related to epigenetics, molecular biology and molecular epidemiology. Experience of working with human specimens and large international consortia and networks, mechanistic/functional studies using cell culture models. Publication record in the relevant research areas.

Desirable:

Experience at international level and in international research projects. Experience in molecular and epigenetic profiling, high-throughput profiling (sequencing) and related data analysis and interpretation would be an asset.

Languages:

Essential:

Excellent knowledge of English.

Desirable:

Working knowledge of French would be an asset.

Additional Information:

Important Note:

It is mandatory to attach a full list of publications. To add this list, please go to your profile under additional documents.

Candidates called for interview will be expected to give a seminar.

IARC/WHO offers an attractive compensation package including an annual net salary (subject to mandatory deductions for pension contributions and health insurance), dependency benefits, pension plan, health insurance scheme and 30 days annual leave. Benefits for internationally recruited staff may include travel and removal expenses on appointment and separation, assignment grant, rental subsidy and home leave.

Annual salary: (Net of tax)

60 509 Euros at single rate

64 511 Euros with primary dependants

This vacancy notice may be used to fill other similar positions at the same grade level.

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. 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.

WHO is committed to workforce diversity.

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



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