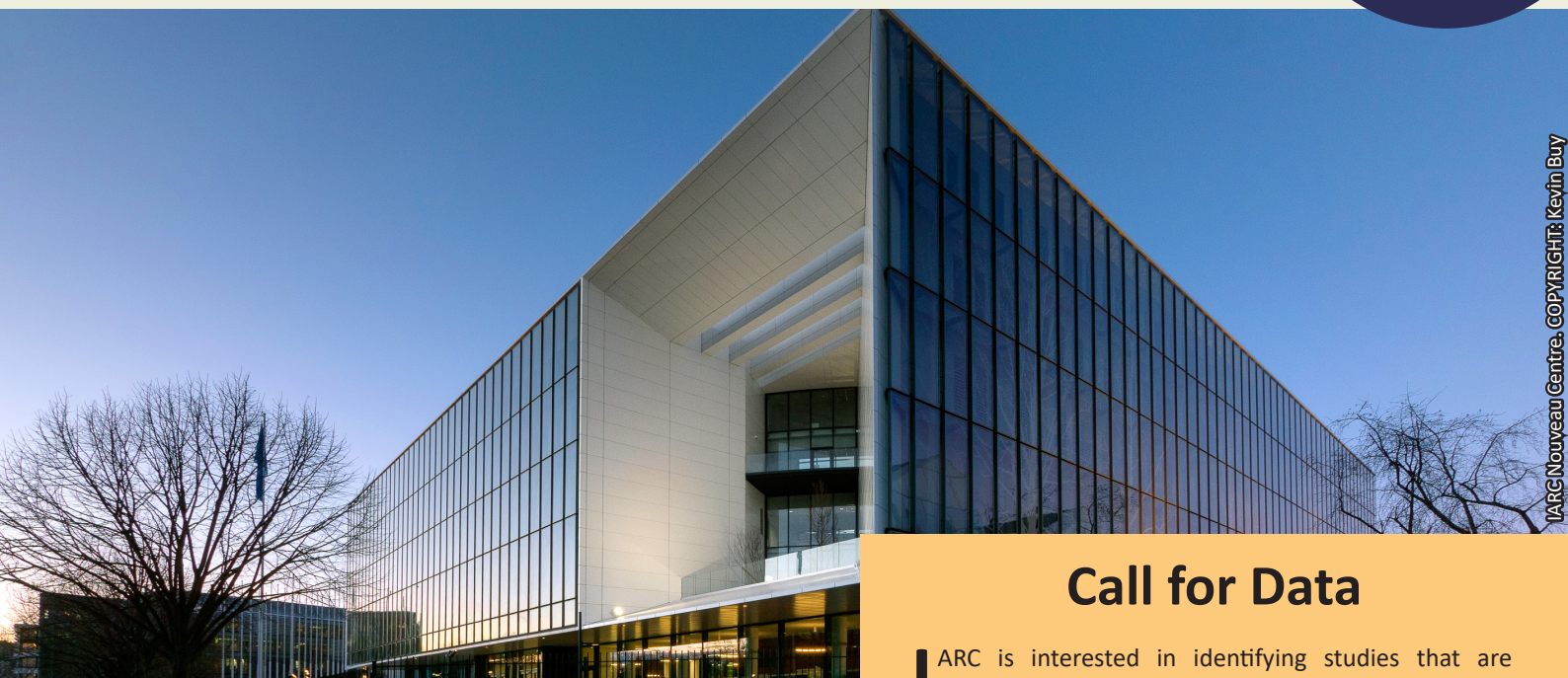


A newsletter from the *IARC Monographs* programme



IARC Nouveau Centre. COPYRIGHT: Kevin Bruy

IARC moves to the Nouveau Centre

After a year of planning, downsizing, and packing, and nearly three months of working from home, the *IARC Monographs* team moved into our new offices at the IARC Nouveau Centre in the Gerland Biodistrict, Lyon, in January of this year.

We have since been busy setting up our offices, with our old desks being phased out and replaced with adjustable standing desks. Our physical archives have also moved with us and are now assembled in their own room.

The IARC Nouveau Centre meeting rooms have the latest audiovisual equipment, which we are learning to use in preparation for our upcoming meetings.

As part of settling into the Gerland Biodistrict, we have been sampling the local restaurants and exploring the nearby parks bordering the banks of the Rhône river - Parc de Gerland and the Parc des Berges du Rhône.

We are very much looking forward to welcoming the Working Group for Volume 134 to the inaugural *IARC Monographs* meeting in our new home!



Call for Data

IARC is interested in identifying studies that are relevant to the carcinogenicity of the agents that will be reviewed in each volume. This includes all pertinent cancer epidemiology studies, cancer bioassays, and mechanistic evidence in both exposed humans and experimental systems. Eligible studies should be published or accepted for publication in the openly available scientific literature. Relevant exposure data (particularly from low- and middle-income countries) that are or can be made publicly available are also requested. Please see the [IARC Monographs Preamble](#) for details of the types of study that may be reviewed.

The **Call for Data** and **Call for Experts** are announced approximately 1 year before the meeting on the [IARC Monographs website](#).

Meeting 134: Aspartame, Methyleugenol, and Isoeugenol

Meeting dates: 6–13 June 2023

[Call for Data](#) closing date: 6 May 2023

[Call for Experts](#) CLOSED 6 September 2022

Meeting 135: Perfluorooctanoic acid (PFOA) and Perfluorooctanesulfonic acid (PFOS)

Meeting dates: 7–14 November 2023

[Call for Data](#) closing date: 7 October 2023

[Call for Experts](#) CLOSED 28 November 2022

IARC encourages the participation of Representatives of national and international health agencies. If you are interested in serving as a Representative, contact us at imonews@iarc.who.int.

The Team

Introducing Eero Suonio and Jenn Nicholson



Where are you originally from?

ES: Finland.

JN: I was born in the south of England but moved every few years until I was in my 30s and settled in Lyon. So, I am

generically British.

How long have you been at IARC?

ES: 11 years.

JN: I have been at IARC for nearly 4 years now, starting with Purchasing Services then moving to the *Mono-graphs* programme 6 months later.

What is your role in the IMO team?

ES: I am a consultant, mainly in human exposure assessment. I have a broad knowledge of cancer, from basic research and clinical practice to prevention.

JN: I am the secretary for the *Mono-graphs* dealing with the day to day admin and the logistics for hosting the meetings.

If you were to recommend one place in Lyon to visit, where would it be and why?

ES: The Lyon Opera House. Because of the orchestra, the choir, the École du spectateur and the opera and concert performances I have heard and seen. Not to forget the unique architecture of the building.

JN: The Monts d'Or. Accessible by public transport, there are some wonderful walks and beautiful views!



Results of IARC Monographs Meeting 133: Anthracene, 2-Bromopropane, Butyl Methacrylate, and Dimethyl Hydrogen Phosphite

Meeting held in Lyon between 28 February and 7 March 2023

International Agency for Research on Cancer World Health Organization			
IARC MONOGRAPHS VOL. 133 ANTHRACENE, 2-BROMOPROPANE, BUTYL METHACRYLATE, AND DIMETHYL HYDROGEN PHOSPHITE (28 February to 7 March 2023)			
 2-Bromopropane	 Anthracene	 Butyl methacrylate	 Dimethyl hydrogen phosphite
Group 2A Probably carcinogenic to humans	Group 2B Possibly carcinogenic to humans	Group 2B Possibly carcinogenic to humans	Group 2B Possibly carcinogenic to humans
MAIN USES Solvent and intermediate in the manufacture of organic chemicals, pharmaceuticals, dyes, and adhesives. Cleaning solvent.	Intermediate in the manufacture of dyes and pigments, pyrotechnics, coatings, wood preservatives, and pesticides, and in the manufacture of organic chemicals.	Manufacture of polyvinyl chloride plastics, polypropylene materials, glues, caulks, inks and paints, pesticides and healthcare materials.	Intermediate in the manufacture of adhesives, lubricants, pesticides, and pharmaceuticals. Reactive flame retardant in several synthetic textiles.
High Production Volume Chemicals			
 EXPOSURES Occupational exposure via respiratory and dermal routes during its production and use.	 Widespread environmental pollutant formed by incomplete combustion of biomass. Various occupational exposures, including coking and firefighting. Exposure of the general population through tobacco smoke, polluted air, and contaminated foods.	 Occupational exposure via respiratory route, with highest levels in paint and adhesive manufacturing.	 Occupational exposure via respiratory route during its production and use.

[Click to enlarge](#)

Anthracene, butyl methacrylate, and dimethyl hydrogen phosphite are high-production-volume chemicals that are used to manufacture a range of industrial products. Also found in tobacco smoke, burning biomass, traffic and industry emissions, and contaminated food, anthracene is a widespread environmental pollutant. 2-Bromopropane is a solvent used in dry cleaning and production/application of adhesives, and is an impurity of 1-bromopropane (a substitute for ozone-depleting solvents).

The Working Group classified anthracene, butyl methacrylate, and dimethyl hydrogen phosphite as *possibly carcinogenic to humans (Group 2B)* on the basis of *sufficient* evidence for cancer in experimental animals and *limited* or *inadequate* mechanistic evidence. 2-Bromopropane was classified as *probably carcinogenic to humans (Group 2A)* on the basis of *sufficient* evidence for cancer in experimental animals (noting an unusually high degree of carcinogenic activity) and *strong* mechanistic evidence in experimental systems, supported by suggestive mechanistic evidence in exposed humans.

A summary of the results of IARC Monographs Meeting 133 has now been published in [The Lancet Oncology](#).



Announcing the Meeting of the Advisory Group to Recommend Priorities for the IARC Monographs, 2025–2029

The IARC Monographs Programme has evaluated the carcinogenicity of more than 1035 agents over its 51-year history, yet many more suspected causes of cancer may merit evaluation. A frequently asked question about the programme is how we decide which agents to evaluate at each meeting.

As noted in the [Preamble to the IARC Monographs](#), every 5 years since 1984 IARC has convened a meeting of an interdisciplinary Advisory Group to recommend priorities for agents to be evaluated (or re-evaluated) by the programme over the next 5-year period. Since 2003, nominations have been solicited from the general public, in addition to the scientific community. Criteria for prioritizing agents for evaluation include: (a) whether there is evidence of human exposure; and (b) whether there is evidence of carcinogenic hazard for one or more of the three evidence streams considered in the *IARC Monographs*: cancer in exposed humans, cancer in experimental animals, or mechanistic evidence in exposed humans or experimental systems. Agents can be prioritized for re-evaluation if there is new evidence that could lead to a change in classification.

On 26–29 March 2024, IARC will convene the [Advisory Group to Recommend Priorities for the IARC Monographs during 2025–2029](#). We encourage the scientific community and members of the public to nominate agents for consideration by this Advisory Group. Full details on how to do so are available on our website; for easy reference, please bookmark our [nominations](#) page. To make a nomination, please complete our [on-line form](#), supplying the agent name and information on the public health reason for IARC to undertake a cancer hazard evaluation, together with your name and affiliation. Completing a [declaration of competing interests](#) form is mandatory. The closing date for nominations is 30 November 2023.

Another opportunity to contribute to the Priorities meeting is to respond to the [Call for Experts](#) to join the Advisory Group. The process to request participation as a Member or Observer is outlined on our website. Act soon if you are interested in these opportunities: the closing date for self-nomination to join the Advisory Group as a Member is 31 July, and for requesting Observer status is 26 September.

Mary Schubauer-Berigan



Members of the 2019 Advisory Group and IARC Secretariat

Call for Advisory Group Members

Advisory Group Members prepare preliminary pre-meeting materials and participate in a 4-day meeting to recommend priorities for the *IARC Monographs* during 2025–2029. Eligible scientists generally have published significant research related to carcinogenicity of environmental, behavioural, or occupational factors that can increase the risk of human cancer, or in exposure characterization for carcinogens. They may also have expertise in carcinogen testing and/or in carcinogen hazard evaluation. Consideration is also given to diversity in scientific approaches and views, as well as geographical representation. Self-nominations and nomination of women and of candidates from low- and middle-income countries are particularly encouraged.

For more information on the Advisory Group to Recommend Priorities for the *IARC Monographs*, please see feature on page 3.

Nomination of Agents

For each new volume of the *IARC Monographs*, IARC selects the agents for review from those recommended by the most recent [Advisory Group Report](#), considering the availability of pertinent research studies and current public health priorities. IARC encourages the general public, the scientific community, national health agencies, and other organizations to nominate agents for review in future *IARC Monographs* volumes.

If you would like to nominate an agent, please complete the [online form](#) (one agent per form) and the accompanying WHO Declaration of Interests. Please contact IARC at priorities@iarc.who.int for further information.

Advisory Group to Recommend Priorities for the *IARC Monographs* during 2025–2029

Meeting dates: 26–29 March 2024

[Call for Nominations](#) closing date: 30 November 2023

[Call for Experts](#) closing date: 31 July 2023

Published in 2023

The Lancet Oncology

Cattley RC, Kromhout H, Sun M, et al. (2023). Carcinogenicity of anthracene, 2-bromopropane, butyl methacrylate, and dimethyl hydrogen phosphite. *The Lancet Oncology*. [Published online 23 March 2023](#)

Related Publications

DeBono NL, Daniels RD, Beane Freeman LE, et al. (2023). Firefighting and cancer: a meta-analysis of cohort studies in the context of cancer hazard identification. *Safety and Health at Work*. [Published online 7 March 2023](#)

Filho AM, Turner MC, Warnakulasuriya S, et al. (2023). The carcinogenicity of opium consumption: a systematic review and meta-analysis. *European Journal of Epidemiology*. [Published online 11 February 2023](#)

Schubauer-Berigan MK, Richardson DB, Fox MP, et al. (2023). IARC-NCI workshop on an epidemiological toolkit to assess biases in human cancer studies for hazard identification: beyond the algorithm. *Occupational and Environmental Medicine*. 80(3):119-20. [Published online 30 January 2023](#)



IARC Nouveau Centre

25 avenue Tony Garnier
CS 90627
69366 Lyon
CEDEX 07 France

Email: imonews@iarc.who.int

Web: <https://monographs.iarc.who.int/>

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