

LIST OF ALL BRANCH FLASH TALKS FOR SC/60 (7 February 2024)- Revision 1

Branches	Scientific Council members	Room # (capacity) & planned in-house attendance
Cancer Surveillance (CSU)	Ferrán Catalá López ; Roberta de Angelis ; Valery Lemmens	RC103 (52 seats) CSU (30 attendees)
Nutrition and Metabolism (NME)	Mathilde Touvier; André Karch ; Pål R. Romundstad	RC108 (20 seats) NME
Laboratory Support, Biobanking and Services (LSB)	Einas Abdulaziz Eid Al Kuwari ; Young-Woo Kim; Orla Sheils	RC106 (18 seats) LSB
Genomic Epidemiology (GEM)	Jeanette Falck Winther ; David Gisselsson Nord ; Walter Berger ;	RC150 (240 seats) GEM (40 attendees)
Environment and Lifestyle Epidemiology (ENV)	Ben Spycher ; Sirpa Heinävaara; Mohamed Berraho	RC109 (16 seats) ENV (9 attendees)
Epigenomics and Mechanisms (EGM)	Jie He; István Kenessey	RC104 (50 seats) EGM (25 attendees)
Early Detection, Prevention and Infections (EPR)	Valeriy Breder; Satish Gopal; Prashant Mathur	RC107 (30 seats) EPR (20 attendees)
<i>Evidence Synthesis and Classification (ESC)</i>	<i>Under review – No flash talk for SC/60 Marc Arbyn, Marie-Elise Parent and Luis Felipe + 3 external members</i>	<i>Not applicable</i>
Learning and Capacity building (LCB)	Manami Inoue; Kalipso Chalkidou ; Louisa Gordon	RC105 (18 seats) LCB (7 to 10 attendees)

Unable to attend

Rapporteur

Cancer Surveillance Branch (CSU) – To be discussed with: **Ferrán Catalá López**; **Roberta de Angelis**; Valery Lemmens

Branch/ Team	Flash talk #	Flash talk title	Name of presenter	E-mail address	If applicable, cross-branch interactions	Take-home message
CSU	RC103	Avoidable Breast Cancer Deaths due to Diagnosis and Treatment Disparities in Low- to Middle Income Countries: A SURVCAN-3 Population-based Study	Oliver	Langseliuso@iacr.who.int		The female breast cancer burden is expected to increase over the next few years across the country income levels (especially LMICs given changing age structures and underlying risk factors). Diagnosis and treatment measures should be heavily invested in as part of the WHO Global Breast Cancer Initiative's three pillars aimed at health promotion for early detection, timely diagnosis, and comprehensive breast cancer management. Improved data collection in LMICs via cancer registries is also needed through advocacy and resource mobilisation.

Branch/ Team	Flash talk #	Flash talk title	Name of presenter	E-mail address	If applicable, cross-branch interactions	Take-home message
CSU	RC103	Global landscape of cancer according to human development	Maxime	largem@iarc.who.int		The increasing gaps in socioeconomic levels worldwide will have a major impact on the future cancer mortality burden
CSU	RC103	Incidence of childhood cancer in Latin America and the Caribbean	Neimar	depaulasilvan@iarc.who.int		Using data from the International Incidence of Childhood Cancer volume 3 we analysed geographical patterns and time trends of childhood cancer incidence in Latin America and the Caribbean (LAC) and their potential determinants. Compared with global data, LAC have a higher incidence of lymphoma and a lower incidence of certain other solid tumours. The observed differences may stimulate further research. This study is the first overview of childhood cancer burden in LAC and has raised awareness of the requirement of quality registration to tackle childhood cancer on populational level. We are actively supporting the development of registration of childhood cancer in Mexico and building capacity in the region through the ChildGICR collaboration with St Jude. We are also planning a course on childhood cancer registration in that region to be delivered in Spanish.
CSU	RC103	Impact of smokeless tobacco and areca nut use on the global burden of oral cancer	Harriet	rumgayh@iarc.who.int	ESC (Handbooks)	Globally, nearly a third (30%) of oral cancer cases per year are due to smokeless tobacco and areca nut use (130,000 cases), increasing to between 50% and 85% of oral cancer cases in South Asia & Western Pacific where consumption is most prevalent and where we find the highest rates of oral cancer.

Branch/ Team	Flash talk #	Flash talk title	Name of presenter	E-mail address	If applicable, cross-branch interactions	Take-home message
CSU	RC103	The global impact of the COVID-19 pandemic on delays and disruptions in cancer care services: A systematic review and meta-analysis	Richa	shahr@iacr.who.int		The COVID-19 pandemic significantly impacted cancer services, leading to substantial declines in cancer screening, diagnosis, diagnostic procedures, and treatment, with medium human development index (HDI) countries experiencing greater reductions than high and very high HDI countries. Data from low HDI countries were missing, which emphasize the need for increased investments in cancer surveillance and research in these settings.

Nutrition and Metabolism Branch (NME) – To be discussed with: Mathilde Touvier; André Karch; Pål R. Romundstad

Branch/ Team	Flash talk #	Flash talk title	Name of presenter	E-mail address	If applicable, cross-branch interactions	Take-home message
NME/ LEI	RC108	Associations between species diversity in the European diet and gastrointestinal cancer risk	Bernadette Chimera	chimerab@iarc.who.int		In the large Pan-European EPIC cohort, higher dietary species richness was inversely associated with overall gastrointestinal cancer risk and the risk of specific cancer types, independent of socio-demographic, lifestyle, and other known dietary risk factors. The results support emerging calls to alter global food systems and formulate recommendations for sustainable diets which also consider food biodiversity, thus motivating the consideration of this dietary indicator in future food-based dietary guidelines.
NME/ HorM	RC108	Obesity and endometrial cancer: using proteomics to identify underlying mechanistic pathways	Sabrina Wang	wangs@iarc.who.int		Protein markers related to inflammation (IL6, PIK3AP1, HGF), cortisol-cortisone conversion (HSD11B1), immunoregulation (CLEC4G, CCL25), and angiogenesis (HGF) could influence risk of endometrial cancer. Some of these markers may represent pathways involved in mediating the effect of obesity on risk of EC, and may be potential targets for cancer prevention in women with obesity.
NME/ BDI	RC108	Metabolic signatures of habitual alcohol intake and their associations with gastrointestinal cancers	Emeline Courtois	courtoise@iarc.who.int		Combining untargeted metabolomics, questionnaire-based and clinical data available in the EPIC cohort, we derive metabolic signatures of habitual alcohol intake, which show strong associations with the risk of hepato-cellular carcinoma, pancreatic cancer and colorectal cancer. These findings could enhance our understanding of the biological processes underlying the carcinogenic effect of alcohol

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NME/ OMB	RC108	Circulating metabolites associated with gut microbial alpha-diversity and their associations with risk of colon cancer in EPIC	Hwayoung Noh / Yuhan Zhang	hwayoung.noh@inserm.fr		Discovery of 10 circulating metabolites associated with gut microbial alpha-diversity using untargeted LC-MS metabolomics and stool microbiome sequencing data from 2 well-phenotyped Chinese and Korean studies. Screening of the discovered biomarkers in EPIC serum metabolomics data demonstrated a significant increased colon cancer risk association for glycochenodeoxycholic acid, a bile acid metabolite, in line with previous findings in other populations. This study demonstrates the capacity of untargeted LC-MS metabolomics for identification of novel blood biomarkers of gut microbial diversity, and their potential link to cancer etiology.
NME/ MET	RC108	A proteogenomic analysis of the adiposity and colorectal cancer relationship identifies GREM1 as a probable mediator	Matthew Lee	leem@iarc.who.int		Supported by evidence from cis-SNP MR and colocalization analyses, GREM1 was identified as a novel potential mediator of the BMI-CRC association.

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NME/ NCM	RC108	Occurrence of cardiovascular diseases and risk of cancer in large European cohorts	Emma Fontvieille	fontvieille@iarc.who.int		Cardiovascular diseases are emerging risk factors for cancer. Within EPIC and UK Biobank we evaluated whether the occurrence of Stroke and coronary heart disease were associated with the risk of cancer development, once the role of lifestyle risk factors common to both chronic conditions was accounted for

Laboratory Support, Biobanking and Services (LSB) – To be discussed with: Einas Abdulaziz Eid Al Kuwari; Young-Woo Kim; Orla Sheils

Branch	Flash talk #	Flash talk title	Name of presenter	E-mail address	If applicable, cross-branch interactions	Take-home message
NME/LSB	RC106	Operational developments in the IARC biobank and integration of new robotic platforms	Christophe Lallemand	lallemandc@iarc.who.int		The move of the Agency to new, purpose-built premises in January 2023 has provided the opportunity to update and upgrade existing facilities. In the Biobank, new robotic platforms were obtained and integrated as part of the biological sample processing pipeline, and will be presented in the context of biobanking operations.
NME/LSB	RC106	Laboratory safety improvements and accreditation	Stephanie Villar	villars@iarc.who.int		The move of the Agency to new, purpose built premises in January 2023 has provided the opportunity to reconsider the laboratory safety aspects afresh. These improvements are not only needed for the routine laboratory operations, but also set the foundation for the pursuit of accreditation.
NME/LSB	RC106	Impact of COVID-19 on Cancer services	Elodie Caboux	caboux@iarc.who.int		The COVID-19 pandemic has had a multitude of effects on healthcare provision. Focusing on cancer care in France, there has been extensive work in collaboration with local partners to highlight both the challenges that have been encountered, as well as the positive innovations that have resulted.
NME/LSB	RC106	The effects of the intra-tumor mycobiome on cancer progression	Zisis Kozlakidis	Kozlakidisz@iarc.who.int		The relationship between pathogens and cancer has been investigated for decades, in particular for viral and bacterial species. Here we report the first definitive work on the impact of fungal intratumor infections, its impacts within the tumour microenvironment as well as tumour progression.
NME/LSB	RC106	Investigating the effect of children nutrition on the microbiome and ALL	Zisis Kozlakidis	kozlakidisz@iarc.who.int	NME	The incidence of ALL is increasing in low-and middle-income countries, and while this may be partly due to increased diagnosis, the outcomes remain distinctly different to high-income settings. This collaborative work investigates the effect of children nutrition on the microbiome and acute lymphoblastic leukaemia.

Genomic Epidemiology Branch (GEM) – To be discussed with: Jeanette Falck Winther; David Gisselsson Nord

Branch/ Team	Flash talk #	Flash talk title	Name of presenter	E-mail address	If applicable, cross-branch interactions	Take-home message
GEM	RC150	Genetic variation in SP140 in lymphomas, results from InterLymph.	Han La Park	parkh@iarc.who.int	GEM	Working with the International lymphoma epidemiology consortium (InterLymph) we have undertaken genetic studies of lymphoma subtypes. Genetic variants near the SP140 gene have been implicated in many lymphoma subtypes.
GEM	RC150	Development and validation of a protein biomarker panel for early lung cancer detection in the INTEGRAL project	Mattias Johansson	johanssonm@iarc.who.int	GEM	Using a proteomics-based approach to scan for early circulating proteins of lung cancer, we have developed a custom protein panel that improves risk assessment for use in lung cancer screening programs.
GEM	RC150	Unusual pattern of mutations induced by different kidney cancer-causing events	Aida Ferreira	ferreiroa@iarc.who.int	GEM	Somatic mutation patterns, induced by mutagenic agents and serving as exposure indicators in various global regions, offer opportunities for gaining new insights into the causes of kidney cancer and exposure dynamics
GEM	RC150	Molecular characterisation of lung neuroendocrine tumours through innovative technologies	Alexandra Sexton-Oates	sextonoatesa@iarc.who.int	GEM	Integration of multi-omic, single-cell and spatial data analysed with cancer evolution approaches, coupled with whole-image deep learning analyses, provides a comprehensive molecular and morphological understanding of aggressive lung neuroendocrine tumors.

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GEM	RC150	Mutographs: Mutational signatures in colorectal cancer from varying-incidence countries reveal new insights in early-onset colorectal cancer.	Wellington Oliveira dos Santos	oliveiraw@iacr.who.int	GEM	Analysis of mutational signatures in colorectal tumours from countries with varying incidence rates indicates differences in signature burden, primarily related to the colibactin-associated signature. This analysis also provides new insights into the association between the colibactin signature and early-onset colorectal cancer patients.

Environment and Lifestyle Epidemiology Branch (ENV) – To be discussed with: Ben Spycher; Sirpa Heinävaara; Mohamed Berraho

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ENV	RC109	Cancer risks in agricultural workers	Joanne Kim	kimj@iarc.who.int		1) No evidence for increased risk of Hodgkin lymphoma from 22 active ingredients studied Important to accounting for indirect exposure for female farmers (not mixing/applying pesticides) in order to investigate the risk of breast cancer
ENV	RC109	Bladder cancer in Iran	Bayan Hosseini	hosseinib@iarc.who.int		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Metalworkers and workers exposed to aromatic amines in Iran have also an increased risk of occupational bladder cancer. • Opium consumption varies across economical activities, therefore should be considered as a confounding factor in occupational epidemiological studies. • Interdisciplinary collaboration is essential for the restriction/reduction of occupational exposure to some chemicals, e.g., aromatic amines. • Initiate large-scale prospective epidemiological studies in key industries with systematic exposure assessment to inform cancer control in Iran and efforts at the global level, as data from emerging economies are lacking worldwide.

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ENV	RC109	Breast cancer journey in Namibia	Pauline Boucheron	boucheronp@iacr.who.int		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • In Namibia, 3-year overall survival after a breast cancer diagnosis is far below that of 5-year observed in high-income countries, and is lowest in Black women; • Suboptimal survival is underpinned by marked racial inequities in accessing healthcare, with Black women having lower GBCI key performance indicators than their Mixed ancestry and White counterparts; • Shortening of the precontact and diagnostic intervals and strengthening multimodal treatment completion rates are the main priorities to reduce breast cancer mortality in Namibia; • Context-specific interventions are also needed to promote earlier diagnosis in Black Namibians.
ENV	RC109	Language of cancer communication in Africa	Hannah Simba	simbah@iacr.who.int		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Cancer terminology for diagnosis and treatment exists in African languages to very variable extents. • Cancer terminology in African languages may contribute to fear, disparities for patients, and pose communication difficulties for Health Professionals. • Only 31% of oncology healthcare professionals indicated strong confidence in cancer communication with patients in the local language. • This work serves as a platform for future in-depth work on the topic given the multiplicities of languages and cultures across the continent. • Development of terminology alternatives - for instance for “radiotherapy”, which is translated as “being burnt” or “roasting” in a number of languages - are needed.

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ENV	RC109	LAC Code against Cancer	Ariadna Feliu	feliua@iarc.who.int		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Latin American and the Caribbean (LAC) Code Against Cancer was launched in October 2023. • The LAC Code Against Cancer is the first Regional Code under the World Code Against Cancer Framework. • It consists of 17 recommendations based on the most recent solid scientific evidence and adapted to common scenarios in LAC. • The LAC Code Against Cancer is the first to include a complementary list of recommendations for policymakers to ensure they enable the adoption of cancer prevention measures by the individuals. • The Code also offers a free-of-charge online competency-based microlearning programme for primary health care professionals in the region (to be launched soon) that will be hosted at the PAHO Virtual Campus for Public Health.

Epigenomics and Mechanisms Branch (EGM) – To be discussed with: Walter Berger; Jie He; István Kenessey

Branch	Flash talk #	Flash talk title	Name of presenter	E-mail address	If applicable, cross-branch interactions	Take-home message
EGM	RC104	Impact of early-life exposure to Epstein-Barr virus and mycotoxins on the epigenome of African children and endemic Burkitt lymphomagenesis	Thanos M. Michailidis	mouchtarisa@iarc.who.int	ENV, NME	Our study provides evidence that in-utero and early-life exposure to mycotoxins is a risk factor for EBV-associated Burkitt Lymphoma in children from Africa. This may set the basis for the development of biomarkers and direct more rigorous actions for cancer prevention in low- and middle-income countries.
EGM	RC104	Identifying epigenetic biomarkers at the origins of childhood cancer and their in utero determinants	Natália Spitz Toledo Dias	spitztoledodiasn@iarc.who.int	ENV, CSU	Our multi-centric and multi-disciplinary study presents evidence that epigenetic alterations can be observed since the time of birth in children who later developed childhood cancer. These biomarkers may serve as precursors in the biological pathways connecting the in utero environment to the development of cancer.
EGM	RC104	Waterpipe and cigarette epigenome analysis reveals markers implicated in addiction and smoking type inference	Akram Ghantous	GhantousA@iarc.who.int	GEM	Our high-resolution epigenomic mapping of tobacco exposure show that the epigenetic markers of waterpipe and cigarette smoking are largely different, can accurately infer each smoke type, and can offer actionable targets to reverse the epigenetic memory of addiction as a central player in cancer prevention strategies.
EGM	RC104	Identification of a mutational signature of dietary acrylamide in renal cancer genomes	Jiri Zavadil	zavadilj@iarc.who.int	GEM , ESC/Monographs	The identified ACR/GA-attributed mutagenesis in human kidney cancer associates with documented dietary ACR exposure. The results have considerable implications for cancer prevention strategies aimed at reducing human exposure to dietary ACR, and for IARC's evaluation/classification of ACR and GA (ACR is Group 2A, GA never evaluated; both are high priority targets for re-evaluation).

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EGM	RC104	An integrated approach for development of epigenetic biomarkers of cancer risk in prospective studies	Rita Khoueiry	khoueiry@iarc.who.int	NME, GEM, ESC	This multidisciplinary study is aimed at improving our understanding on the role of epigenetic alterations in initiation and progression of cancer associated with unhealthy lifestyle habits. It should also result in the discovery of epigenetics-based biomarkers for risk stratification, early detection and prognosis.

Early Detection, Prevention and Infections (EPR) – To be discussed with: Valeriy Breder; Satish Gopal; Prashant Mathur

Branch	Flash talk #	Flash talk title	Name of presenter	E-mail address	If applicable, cross-branch interactions	Take-home message
EPR	RC107	Final outcomes of the RCT comparing thermal ablation, cryotherapy and LLETZ in a screen and treat setting in Zambia stratified by HIV status	Dr Richard Muwonge	muwonger@iacr.who.int	Epigenomics and Mechanisms Branch (EGM)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Treatment success using the new handheld battery driven thermal ablator was similar to that of cryotherapy and LLETZ; though significantly lower among HIV-infected women compared to HIV-negatives • With the current WHO initiative for Cervical Cancer Elimination, these findings highlight the challenges in eliminating the disease in women living with HIV
EPR	RC107	Developing an action plan for a barrier to the cancer screening pathway: experience in 21 countries	Dr Isabel Mosquera	mosquerai@iacr.who.int	-	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Among their prioritised barriers in the cancer screening pathway, and based on the potential impact on the programme and the feasibility of their approach, 38% of countries selected to act upon the development/update of screening protocols or capacity building. • Setting a SMART objective in action plans and engaging stakeholders are key to foster change and overcome barriers in the screening pathway.
EPR	RC107	IARC's role in gastric cancer prevention in Europe	Dr Jin Young Park	parkjy@iacr.who.int		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • IARC and partners launched two major EU-funded projects for gastric cancer prevention in Europe. • EUROHELICAN and TOGAS will assess the needs of EU Member States and identify target populations for gastric cancer prevention, while evaluating implementation outcomes of various preventive strategies. • These initiatives are expected to provide much needed data for implementation of appropriate preventive strategies in areas with high burden of gastric cancer in Europe.

Branch	Flash talk #	Flash talk title	Name of presenter	E-mail address	If applicable, cross-branch interactions	Take-home message
EPR	RC107	Access Cancer Care India: Use Case for Implementation Research in Cancer	Dr Arunah Chandran	chandrana@iarc.who.int		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Implementing evidence-based interventions with context appropriate strategy for health systems of different organisation and health outcomes is vital • Intervention elements and strategies should ‘best fit’ for the organization and population identified, recognising that for successful scale-up and sustenance of any proposed strategy, the relevant stakeholders’ opinion and role, the contextual opportunities and barriers as well as the capacity and readiness to implement the change are key. • Practical, Robust Implementation and Sustainability Model (PRISM) framework can be used to assess multilevel contextual factors and reach, effectiveness, adoption, implementation, and maintenance (RE-AIM) framework can be utilised for the planning and evaluation of outcomes of a programme.
EPR	RC107	Modelling the Impact of Concomitant Human Papillomavirus (HPV) Vaccination and HPV Screening for Rapid Elimination of HPV Infection	Dr Andrea Gini	ginia@iarc.who.int		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Validity of IARC’s dynamic, population-based, and single-type HPV transmission model was consolidated modelling HPV prevalence in the Swedish birth cohorts (1994-1998) targeted by organized catch-up vaccination. • A nationwide implementation trial of concomitant HPV vaccination and HPV screening was estimated to further reduce incidence of HPV16 and HPV18 in Sweden in the period 2020-2024. • These key model-based predictions can be useful in the continued work towards the elimination of HPV and cervical cancer.

Learning and Capacity Building (LCB) – To be discussed with: Manami Inoue; Kalipso Chalkidou; Louisa Gordon

Branch	Flash talk #	Flash talk title	Name of presenter	E-mail address	If applicable, cross-branch interactions	Take-home message
LCB	RC105	How to meet the learning needs of a widely diverse audience? Developments and innovations in IARC Learning self-paced resources	Dominique Meunier Amelie Labaume Anouk Berger	meunierd@iarc.who.int labaumea@iarc.who.int bergera@iarc.who.int	ALL	Recent developments and innovations in self-paced resources have allowed to better address the diversity of the IARC Learning audience.
LCB	RC105	Cancer Research for Cancer Prevention Teaching Toolkit	Dominique Meunier Mathilde His (Centre Léon Bérard) Sabina Rinaldi Amelie Labaume	meunierd@iarc.who.int mathilde.his@lyon.unica-ncer.fr rinaldis@iarc.who.int labaumea@iarc.who.int	ALL	In line of IARC Open Science vision, this freely accessible online teaching toolkit is designed to support anyone involved in transmitting knowledge and skills on the rationale and approaches to conduct research for cancer prevention.
LCB	RC105	IARC Summer School and region-driven editions	Sandrine Montigny Mira Delea Laure Dossus Pietro Ferrari Andre Carvalho Arunah Chandran Isabel Mosquera	montignys@iarc.who.int deleam@iarc.who.int	Scientific directors: EPR, NME Faculty: ALL	The 2023 edition of the IARC Summer School was re-designed as a blended learning format and was successfully held. Regional partnerships will leverage the impact of the course and increase capacity-building in cancer prevention research.

Branch	Flash talk #	Flash talk title	Name of presenter	E-mail address	If applicable, cross-branch interactions	Take-home message
LCB	RC105	Bringing “FAIR data” to life!	Heather Coombs Zisis Kozlakidis	coombsh@iarc.who.int kozlakidis@iarc.who.int	LSB GEM NME	<p>The “Swamped?” video series, starring animated characters FAIR frog and Data Gator, is an engaging overview of the data management skills every scientist needs to make Open Science a reality.</p> <p>Interviews with scientific researchers from the HEAP project demonstrate how FAIR data principles can be applied in “real-life” situations.</p> <p>The related learning path empowers researchers to set up FAIR data infrastructure in their everyday practice, and to identify and overcome common data management challenges.</p>
LCB	RC105	IARC Postdoctoral Charter	Elke Niehaus Isabelle Battaglia Anouk Berger	niehause@iarc.who.int battagliai@iarc.who.int bergera@iarc.who.int	Working group: all pillars Set-up: SSR/HRO	The extensive review and update of the IARC Postdoctoral Charter provides an even more structured framework to support postdoctoral scientists within the IARC Research Training and Fellowship Programme. The charter describes available opportunities, commitments expected from early career scientists, supervisors, and the agency during the postdoctoral stay, regardless of the source of funding, host branch and project.