A postdoctoral scientist opportunity is available in the IARC Environment and Lifestyle Epidemiology Branch, to contribute to the European Code Against Cancer [5th edition] (ECAC5) and Boosting the Usability of the European Union Mobile App for Cancer Prevention (BUMPER) projects. Among other activities, the Environment and Lifestyle Epidemiology Branch aims to enable cancer prevention and control worldwide through translation of research evidence into actionable recommendations for the general public and guidelines for decision-makers.

The selected candidate will interact closely with Dr Carolina Espina, supervisor, with other scientists in the Branch and at IARC, including the ECAC5 project manager. The European Code Against Cancer (ECAC) provides the general population in the European Union with evidence-based recommendations on actions they can take to reduce their cancer risk. First published in the 1980s, the current version (4th edition) will be updated in the ECAC5 project based on the latest scientific evidence. ECAC5 will expand the scope of the ECAC by tailoring outputs to different target audiences and fostering the transfer of cancer prevention knowledge into policy and health system strategies. BUMPER is a multidisciplinary project comprised of leading research institutes and non-governmental organisations (NGOs), which runs in parallel to ECAC5. The BUMPER project aims to support and enhance the design, development, and targeted promotion of the EU Mobile App for Cancer Prevention. The purpose of the EU Mobile App for Cancer Prevention is to encourage the uptake of the ECAC5 recommendations by the end-users of the App. Both the updated European Code Against Cancer and the EU Mobile App for Cancer Prevention are key actions of Europe’s Beating Cancer Plan. The selected candidate will play an important to reinforce the complementarity between the ECAC5 and BUMPER projects.

The tasks will include, but will not be limited to: (i) develop the strategy to design, implement and evaluate outputs and materials designed to transfer cancer prevention knowledge generated by ECAC5 to specific target groups (e.g., general population in liaison with the BUMPER project, policymakers, health professionals); (ii) contribute to the design, development and implementation of a multi-country study to test comprehensiveness of cancer prevention messages and persuasiveness for behavioural change in the general population; (iii) contribute to the design, development and implementation of a participatory approach to engage stakeholders in the development and dissemination of ECAC5; (iv) engage in the evaluation of the piloting of the EU Mobile App to determine factors that can improve the future dissemination of the App and training of its promoters; (v) contribute to the design, development and piloting of a cancer awareness tool in the general population; (vi) perform reviews of the evidence when needed, and (vi) assist in project coordination and grant writing for future research projects.

The successful candidate would ideally have:

- A PhD in behavioural or social sciences, health promotion, public health, or related fields.
- Strong knowledge of behavioural change theories, health literacy/education, digital health, and with some understanding of cancer/NCD prevention.
Experience in implementation and evaluation of behavioural interventions, preferably involving digital tools (e.g., mobile apps), data collection (incl. surveys, focus groups, interview scripts, and SMS surveys), analyzing and publishing quantitative and qualitative data.

Desirable experience in implementation and dissemination research, knowledge translation to the community and to policy-makers.

Excellent English language communication skills (oral and written), ideally with good knowledge of other UN languages, preferably French.

The postdoctoral opportunity is initially for one year with the possibility of renewal. The IARC postdoctoral stipend is € 2,950 per month net. The cost of travel for the postdoctoral scientist will be covered. Dependence and health insurance allowances will be paid, if applicable. Applications from nationals from low- and middle-income countries are encouraged. Postdoctoral scientists at IARC have access to a wide spectrum of scientific disciplines and to a unique network of collaborators across the world. IARC welcomes around 50 postdoctoral scientists, at any one time, distributed across its research groups. For more information about postdoctoral stays at IARC, please read the Postdoctoral charter here.

Interested candidates may contact Dr Carolina Espina (espinac@iarc.fr) with informal inquiries about the position.

Applicants should send a cover letter and CV, by 10 April 2023, including list of publications and a description of previous research experience, as well as the names and addresses of two academic referees, to:

Mrs Catherine Chassin
Email: chassinc@iarc.fr