# IARC MONOGRAPHS NEWS

A newsletter from the *IARC Monographs* programme

March 2026
Issue No. 14


## IARC@60 Conference in Lyon

The International Agency for Research on Cancer (IARC) is celebrating its 60th anniversary this year, culminating with the "IARC@60: Cancer Research into Action" international conference in Lyon, France, on 19–21 May 2026. This landmark event will bring together researchers, policy-makers, and public health leaders to present the most recent findings, discuss the latest scientific advancements, and explore how best to bridge the gap between research and policy impact.

Registration is still open to attend this exceptional event celebrating 60 years of IARC and launching a new era in cancer prevention research.

### Call for 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.

## 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 142: Butyl benzyl phthalate, dibutyl phthalate, and diisononyl phthalate**

Meeting dates: 9–16 June 2026

Call for Data closing date: 10 May 2026

Call for Experts CLOSED: 10 August 2025

**Meeting 143: Cannabis smoking**

Meeting dates: 3–10 November 2026

Call for Data closing date: 10 October 2026

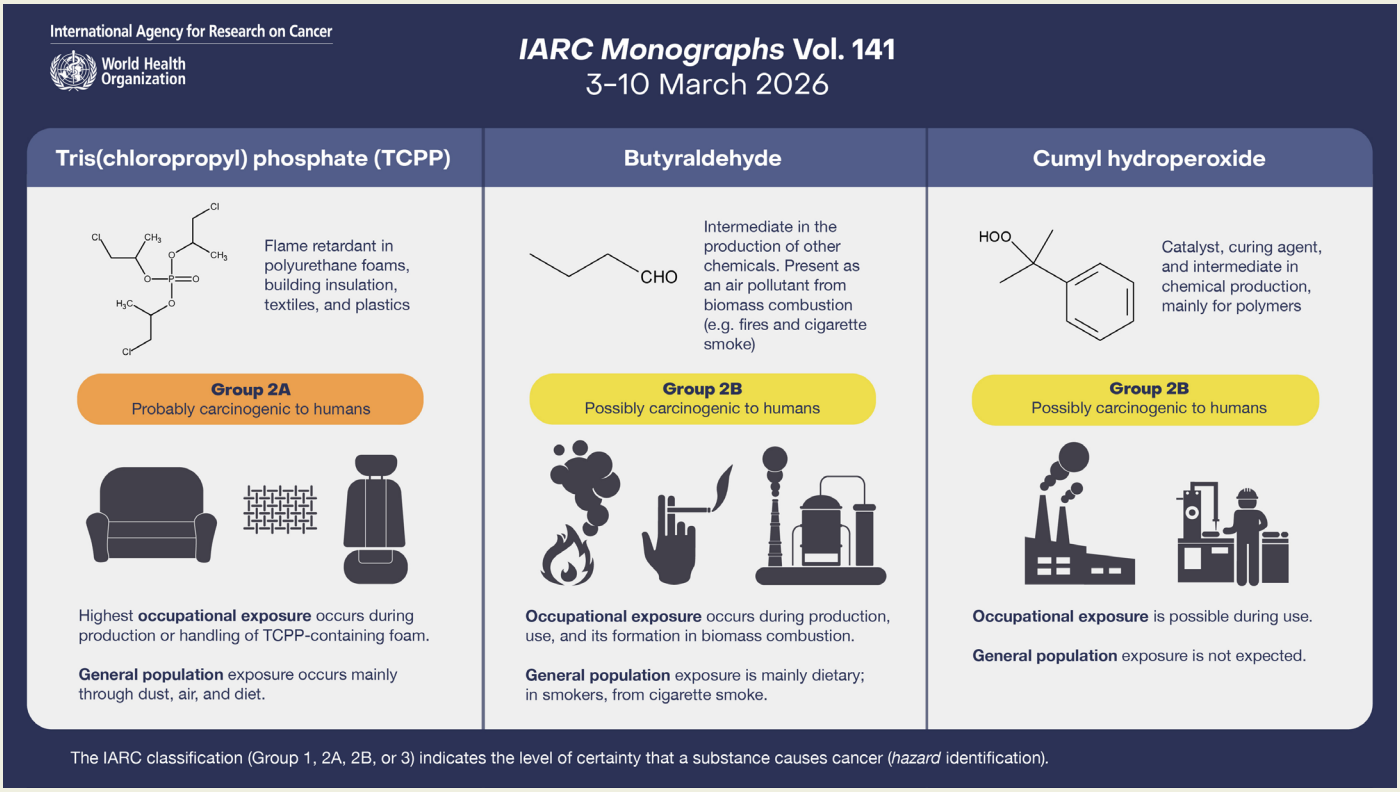
Call for Experts CLOSED: 16 December 2025

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.

International Agency for Research on Cancer
World Health Organization

# Results of *IARC Monographs* Meeting 141: Tris(chloropropyl) Phosphate, Butyraldehyde, and Cumyl Hydroperoxide

Meeting held on 3–10 March 2026, in Lyon, France




Click to download full-size infographic

A summary of the results of Meeting 141 has now been published in *The Lancet Oncology*.

Tris(chloropropyl) phosphate (TCPP), butyraldehyde, and cumyl hydroperoxide were all accorded high priority by the Advisory Group to Recommend Priorities for the *IARC Monographs* during 2025–2029. All were evaluated by the *IARC Monographs* programme for the first time.

All three are chemicals with a high production volume and wide-ranging uses in industry.

TCPP was classified as *probably carcinogenic to humans* (Group 2A) on the basis of the combination of *sufficient* evidence for cancer in experimental animals and *strong* mechanistic evidence in human primary cells. The Working Group classified butyraldehyde as *possibly carcinogenic to humans* (Group 2B) in two ways: (i) *sufficient* evidence for cancer in experimental animals; and (ii) *strong* mechanistic evidence in experimental systems. Cumyl hydroperoxide was classified in Group 2B on the basis of *strong* mechanistic evidence in human primary cells and experimental systems.

**The Working Group and Secretariat for Meeting 141, which met in Lyon, France, in March 2026.**

# Visualizing science: an interview with IARC's multimedia expert, Morena Sarzo

*Since Meeting 124: Night Shift Work, in 2019, the* IARC Monographs *programme has published a summary report, a Q&A, and an infographic representing the main results of each evaluation. The infographic describes the agent identity, major exposures and uses, the IARC cancer classification, and human cancer sites, if any. Senior toxicologist Dr Federica Madia asked Morena Sarzo, the IARC multimedia visual designer who prepares these infographics for the* IARC Monographs *programme, for her viewpoints on the creation of infographics.*


**Federica Madia**: What information do you need to create an infographic, and how does it develop?

**Morena Sarzo**: An effective infographic starts with a clear, easily understood message and organizes information so every visual element enhances comprehension. Identifying the target audience is crucial, enabling the use of a visual language that is appropriate and accessible. Icons and illustrations should support and clarify the text, helping viewers understand the content at a glance. For this reason, infographics developed for the *IARC Monographs* emphasize the use of simple, easily interpretable icons. This approach allows information to be communicated directly, even for complex topics such as the evaluation of chemicals, viruses, or mixtures, such as for *Monographs* Volume 139 and, more recently Volume 141. Two aspects are noteworthy: understanding the type of agent under evaluation; and determining how the agent operates within production processes, influencing the pathways of human exposure. Once these elements are clarified, a visual narrative can be constructed that is coherent, functional, and informative.

**FM**: Do you think that conveying scientific data through a graphical message always requires a simplification of the information?

**MS**: Collaboration with scientists is key for turning complex scientific data into clear, effective visuals, with designers translating technical explanations into understandable visual language. Simplification in visual communication balances space constraints and clarity, ensuring that essential information is conveyed accurately and accessibly without overwhelming the audience, while maintaining interest in the *Monographs*.

**FM**: How can infographics help promote and communicate the results of the *Monographs* cancer hazard evaluation?

**MS**: Infographics help communicate the results of the *IARC Monographs* by transforming complex findings into clear messages that are accessible to a non-technical audience. Their effectiveness depends not only on visual quality but also on teamwork within the communication group. A well-designed infographic must be supported by effective dissemination strategies. Factors such as communication channels, timing, format, and shareability influence its visibility and impact across media platforms, press releases, and institutional websites. Overall, infographics are only one part of a broader communication process. Their real impact comes from the integration of strong content, strategic distribution, and collaboration, which helps ensure accurate understanding of scientific findings and reduces the risk of misinterpretation.

# IARC Early Career Scientists at Meeting 141

From left to right: Seyederoya Hosseini (NME), Aline Al-Nahas (NME), and Phyllis Ohene-Agyei (ENV).*

**Where are you originally from and how long have you been at IARC?**

**Aline Al-Nahas:** I am from Lebanon and have been at IARC for 5 years. I completed my PhD here and am now a postdoctoral researcher in the NME Branch.

**Phyllis Ohene-Agyei:** I am from Ghana and have been at IARC since May 2025.

**Seyederoya Hosseini:** I am from Iran and joined IARC in April 2025.

**What is your role in your group at IARC? What research projects are you working on?**

**AAN:** I have greatly enjoyed working on epidemiology projects such as ULTRINCA, which focuses on associations between ultra-processed foods, cancer, and mortality; and Life-Screen, an interventional study embedded in the French colorectal cancer screening programme.

**POA:** I am a postdoctoral scientist in the ENV Branch. With my supervisor, I am co-developing a research programme on skin cancer control in persons with albinism in Africa, developing research protocols spanning primary prevention to cancer survivorship and policy review. I am also involved in childhood cancer research projects in eastern and southern Africa.

**SH:** I am a PhD student in the NME Branch, working on how lifestyle factors such as diet, body composition, and movement behaviours interact with cardiometabolic risk and socioeconomic position in shaping cancer risk and survivorship, using large cohort data.

**What were your main insights from your time at the *Monographs* meeting?**

**AAN:** It was inspiring to see researchers and experts from around the world come together. I was also glad to contribute to the meticulous data reporting, fact checking, and rigorous scientific evaluation, and it was a valuable experience to engage in such a thorough and collaborative scientific process.

**POA:** Being a member of the mechanistic evidence group helped me to understand the rigorous and transparent process used to evaluate carcinogens. I also enjoyed the cross-group discussions, which gave me a more comprehensive picture of the evaluation process. All the invited experts I interacted with were very supportive.

**SH:** As this was my first time participating in a *Monographs* meeting, it was an important learning experience in understanding how scientific evaluation works in practice. I gained a clearer view of how published evidence is systematically reviewed and how scientific findings are interpreted within a structured framework. It was also insightful to recognize where gaps remain in the literature and to see the potential for future research. Overall, the experience gave me a real appreciation for how carefully evidence is evaluated and how much teamwork goes into producing solid public health guidance.

* ENV, Environment and Lifestyle Branch; NME, Nutrition and Metabolism Branch.

# Published in 2026

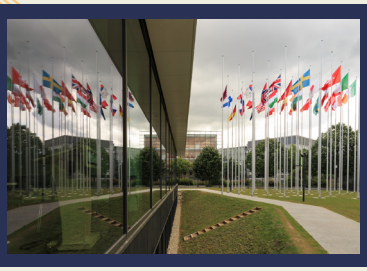
## *IARC Monographs*

**Hydrochlorothiazide, Voriconazole, and Tacrolimus**
**February 2026: Volume 137**
Available from:
https://publications.iarc.who.int/659

## *The Lancet Oncology*

Lachenmeier D, Arrandale VH, DeMarini DM, Ruksha T, Abdallah MA-E, Bettini G, et al. (2026). Carcinogenicity of tris(chloropropyl)phosphate, butyraldehyde, and cumyl hydroperoxide. *The Lancet Oncology*. https://doi.org/10.1016/S1470-2045(26)00168-3

Cattley RC, De Roos AJ, Mandrioli D, Pearce N, Pronk A, Soshilov A, et al. (2025). Carcinogenicity of atrazine, alachlor, and vinclozolin. *The Lancet Oncology*. 27(1):11–12. https://doi.org/10.1016/S1470-2045(25)00702-8 PMID:41285132 [Correction published in *The Lancet Oncology*. 27(2):e71. https://doi.org/10.1016/S1470-2045(25)00757-0]



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