Cover page at MCAS/Biology - update

Kurt Straif

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**Education**

MD, Medical School, University of Bonn, Germany; Board certified in Internal Medicine, Occupational and Environmental Medicine; MPH, School of Public Health, University of California, Los Angeles; PhD, School of Public Health, University of California, Los Angeles

**Courses**

Cancer Epidemiology and Global Control of Cancer; Introduction to Epidemiology; Public Health in a Global Society.

**Research Interests**

### Environmental, occupational and behavioral risk and preventive factors of cancer; Global control of cancer as integral part of the SDG 2030 agenda; more recently, epidemiology of COVID-19; the health impact of the climate crisis.

### Research

### With my background in clinical oncology, occupational and environmental medicine and epidemiology my research is broad and into identification of all kinds of risk and preventive factors of cancer and evidence-informed global cancer control in support of achieving the goals of the SDG 2030 agenda, and particularly SDG 3, Health, with a focus on non-communicable diseases.

Before joining Boston College as a Visiting Professor (2019-2022) and Research Professor (since 2022), I have worked for almost two decades at the International Agency for Research on Cancer (IARC/WHO) in Lyon, France as the Head of the IARC Monographs Program and the Section of Evidence Synthesis and Classification (encompassing the groups of IARC Monographs, IARC Handbooks of Cancer Prevention, WHO Classification of Tumours). I was responsible for the series of Monographs on the carcinogenicity of tobacco (including involuntary smoking, smokeless tobacco and betel quid); air pollution (including indoor and outdoor air pollution, diesel engine exhaust); radiofrequency electromagnetic fields; shift-work and circadian disruption; the IARC Handbooks of Cancer Prevention including Handbooks on cancer preventive effects of avoidance of obesity and screening for breast and colorectal cancer. I contribute my expertise to the Global Burden of Disease project to inform global and local policy for cancer prevention.

**Selected Publications**

**1. Books, Contributions to Books**

World Cancer Report – Cancer Research for Cancer Prevention. Stewart BW, Wild CP (eds).Cree IA, Ferlay J, Straif K (assoc eds). International Agency for Research on Cancer: Lyon, France. 2020

Reducing Social Inequalities in Cancer: Evidence and Priorities for Research. IARC Scientific Publication No. 168. Vaccarella S, Lortet-Tieulent J, Saracci R, Conway DI, Straif K, Wild CP (eds). International Agency for Research on Cancer: Lyon, France. 2019

[Tumour Site Concordance and Mechanisms of Carcinogenesis](https://publications.iarc.fr/Book-And-Report-Series/Iarc-Scientific-Publications/Tumour-Site-Concordance-And-Mechanisms-Of-Carcinogenesis-2019). IARC Scientific Publication No. 165. Baan RA, Stewart BW, Straif K (eds). International Agency for Research on Cancer: Lyon, France. 2019

Straif K, Cohen A, Samet J (eds). Air Pollution and Cancer (IARC Scientific Publications Series, No. 161). International Agency for Research on Cancer: Lyon, France, 2014

**2. Articles in Scientific Journals**

Chartres N, Sass JB, Gee D, Bălan SA, Birnbaum L, Cogliano VJ, Cooper C, Fedinick KP, Harrison RM, Kolossa-Gehring M, Mandrioli D, Mitchell MA, Norris SL, Portier CJ, Straif K, Vermeire T. [Conducting evaluations of evidence that are transparent, timely and can lead to health-protective actions.](https://pubmed-ncbi-nlm-nih-gov.proxy.bc.edu/36471342/) Environ Health. 2022;21(1):123.

Goldberg X, Castaño-Vinyals G, Espinosa A, Carreras A, Liutsko L, Sicuri E, Foraster M, O'Callaghan-Gordo C, Dadvand P, Moncunill G, Dobaño C, Cortés B, Pleguezuelos V, Straif K, Garcia-Aymerich J, de Cid R, Cardis E, Kogevinas M. [Mental health and COVID-19 in a general population cohort in Spain (COVICAT study).](https://pubmed-ncbi-nlm-nih-gov.proxy.bc.edu/35633398/) Soc Psychiatry Psychiatr Epidemiol. 2022;57(12):2457-2468.

Drakvik E, Kogevinas M, Bergman Å, Devouge A, Barouki R; HERA (Health and Environment Research Agenda) Consortium. [Priorities for research on environment, climate and health, a European perspective.](https://pubmed-ncbi-nlm-nih-gov.proxy.bc.edu/35346231/) Environ Health. 2022;21(1):37.

Global Burden of Disease 2019 Cancer Collaboration. [Cancer Incidence, Mortality, Years of Life Lost, Years Lived With Disability, and Disability-Adjusted Life Years for 29 Cancer Groups From 2010 to 2019: A Systematic Analysis for the Global Burden of Disease Study 2019.](https://pubmed-ncbi-nlm-nih-gov.proxy.bc.edu/34967848/) JAMA Oncol. 2022;8(3):420-444.

Hoffmann B, Boogaard H, de Nazelle A, Andersen ZJ, Abramson M, Brauer M, Brunekreef B, Forastiere F, Huang W, Kan H, Kaufman JD, Katsouyanni K, Krzyzanowski M, Kuenzli N, Laden F, Nieuwenhuijsen M, Mustapha A, Powell P, Rice M, Roca-Barceló A, Roscoe CJ, Soares A, Straif K, Thurston G. [WHO Air Quality Guidelines 2021-Aiming for Healthier Air for all: A Joint Statement by Medical, Public Health, Scientific Societies and Patient Representative Organisations.](https://pubmed-ncbi-nlm-nih-gov.proxy.bc.edu/34630006/) Int J Public Health. 2021;66:1604465.

Samet JM, Chiu WA, Cogliano V, Jinot J, Kriebel D, Lunn RM, Beland FA, Bero L, Browne P, Fritschi L, Kanno J, Lachenmeier DW, Lan Q, Lasfargues G, Le Curieux F, Peters S, Shubat P, Sone H, White MC, Williamson J, Yakubovskaya M, Siemiatycki J, White PA, Guyton KZ, Schubauer-Berigan MK, Hall AL, Grosse Y, Bouvard V, Benbrahim-Tallaa L, El Ghissassi F, Lauby-Secretan B, Armstrong B, Saracci R, Zavadil J, Straif K, Wild CP. The IARC Monographs: Updated Procedures for Modern and Transparent Evidence Synthesis in Cancer Hazard Identification. J Natl Cancer Inst. 2020; 112:30-37

Mehrotra R, Yadav A, Sinha DN, Parascandola M, John RM, Ayo-Yusuf O, Nargis N, Hatsukami DK, Warnakulasuriya S, Straif K, Siddiqi K, Gupta PC. Smokeless tobacco control in 180 countries across the globe: call to action for full implementation of WHO FCTC measures. Lancet Oncol. 2019;20:e208-e217

Lauby-Secretan B, Vilahur N, Bianchini F, Guha N, Straif K; International

Agency for Research on Cancer Handbook Working Group. The IARC Perspective on

Colorectal Cancer Screening. N Engl J Med. 2018; 378:1734-1740.

GBD 2017 SDG Collaborators. Measuring progress from 1990 to 2017 and

projecting attainment to 2030 of the health-related Sustainable Development Goals for 195 countries and territories: a systematic analysis for the Global Burden of Disease Study 2017. Lancet. 2018;392:2091-2138

Lauby-Secretan B, Scoccianti C, Loomis D, Grosse Y, Bianchini F, Straif K; International Agency for Research on Cancer Handbook Working Group. Body fatness and cancer – Viewpoint of the IARC Working Group. N Engl J. Med. 2016; 375: 794-798

Wild CP, Bray F, Forman D, Franceschi S, Sankaranarayanan R, Straif K. Cancer in the 25x25 non-communicable disease targets. Lancet 2014; 384: 1502-1503

Chaloupka FJ, Straif K, Leon ME. Effectiveness of tax and price policies in tobacco control. Tob. Control 2011; 20: 235-238

Stayner L, Bena J, Sasco AJ, Smith R, Steenland K, Kreuzer M, Straif K. Lung cancer risk and workplace exposure to environmental tobacco smoke. Am J Public Health 2007;97:545-51

Straif K, Baan R, Grosse Y, Secretan B, El Ghissassi F, Cogliano V; WHO International Agency for Research on Cancer Monograph Working Group. Carcinogenicity of household solid fuel combustion and of high-temperature frying. Lancet Oncol. 2006;7:977-8.