

# BREAST CANCER SCREENING

**VOLUME 15** 

IARC HANDBOOKS OF CANCER PREVENTION

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This publication represents the views and expert opinions of an IARC Working Group on the Evaluation of Cancer-Preventive Strategies, which met in Lyon, 11–18 November 2014

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The International Agency for Research on Cancer (IARC) was established in 1965 by the World Health Assembly, as an independently funded organization within the framework of the World Health Organization. The headquarters of the Agency are in Lyon, France.

The Agency has as its mission to reduce the cancer burden worldwide through promoting international collaboration in research. The Agency addresses this mission through conducting cancer research for cancer prevention in three main areas: describing the occurrence of cancer; identifying the causes of cancer, and evaluating preventive interventions and their implementation. Each of these areas is a vital contribution to the spectrum of cancer prevention.

The publications of the Agency contribute to the dissemination of authoritative information on different aspects of cancer research. Information about IARC publications, and how to order them, is available at <a href="http://publications.iarc.fr/">http://publications.iarc.fr/</a>.



### **IARC Handbooks of Cancer Prevention**

In 1969, the International Agency for Research on Cancer (IARC) initiated a programme on the evaluation of the carcinogenic risk of chemicals to humans involving the production of critically evaluated monographs on individual chemicals.

The *IARC Handbooks of Cancer Prevention* complement the *IARC Monographs*' evaluations of carcinogenic hazards. The objective of the programme is to produce and publish a series of critical reviews of data on the cancer-preventive effects of primary or secondary interventions, to evaluate these data in terms of cancer prevention with the help of international working groups of experts in prevention and related fields, and to indicate where additional research efforts are needed. The lists of evaluations are regularly updated and are available at <a href="http://handbooks.iarc.fr/">http://handbooks.iarc.fr/</a>.

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Cover image: An oblique view mammogram of the left breast of an asymptomatic 57-year-old woman. The arrow points to a small invasive cancer detected at screening. This cancer could not be detected with palpation even after it had been detected with mammography. Photograph courtesy of Peter Dean.