# IARC MONOGRAPHS

# ASPARTAME, METHYLEUGENOL, AND ISOEUGENOL

**VOLUME 134** 

This publication represents the views and expert opinions of an IARC Working Group on the Identification of Carcinogenic Hazards to Humans, which met in Lyon, France, 6–13 June 2023

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IARC MONOGRAPHS ON THE IDENTIFICATION OF CARCINOGENIC HAZARDS TO HUMANS

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International Agency for Research on Cancer

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#### Members <sup>1</sup>

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<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> Working Group Members and Invited Specialists serve in their individual capacities as scientists and not as representatives of their government or any organization with which they are affiliated. Affiliations are provided for identification purposes only. Invited Specialists do not serve as Meeting Chair or Subgroup Chair, draft text that pertains to the description or interpretation of cancer data, or participate in the evaluations. Each participant was asked to declare potentially relevant research, employment, and financial interests that are current or that have occurred during the past 4 years. Minimal interests are not disclosed here, and include stock valued at no more than US\$ 1000 overall, grants that provide no more than 5% of the research budget of the expert's organization and that do not support the expert's research or position, and consulting or speaking on matters not before a court or government agency that does not exceed 2% of total professional time or compensation. All other non-publicly funded grants that support the expert's research or position and all consulting or speaking on behalf of an interested party on matters before a court or government agency are disclosed as potentially significant conflicts of interests.

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<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> Dr de Jong served from February to August 2023 in a part-time, remote capacity as a Senior Visiting Scientist in the WHO Classification of Tumours programme at IARC.

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# **Invited Specialist**

## Junko Ishihara <sup>3</sup>

Azabu University Department of Food and Life Science School of Life and Environmental Science Kanagawa Japan

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>3</sup> Dr Ishihara reported that her unit at Azabu University benefits from research support from Kagome Co. Ltd, which has entered into an agreement with the Ajinomoto Group, the work of which involves competing interests for one of the agents (aspartame) included in this IARC meeting.

## Representatives

#### Dana Evans

Health Products and Food Branch Health Canada Ottawa, Ontario Canada

#### Sabine Francke

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#### Federica Lodi

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#### Perrine Nadaud [withdrew]

French Agency for Food, Environmental and Occupational Health & Safety (ANSES) Paris France

#### Sharon Ross

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# **Observers**<sup>4</sup>

#### Antonio Agudo [attended remotely]

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#### Sue Barlow [attended remotely]

Consultant Brighton UK

#### Susan Borghoff<sup>5</sup>

ToxStrategies LLC Research Triangle Park, North Carolina USA

#### Susan Elmore<sup>6</sup>

Elmore Pathology LLC Chapel Hill, North Carolina USA

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>4</sup> Each Observer agreed to respect the Guidelines for Observers at *IARC Monographs* meetings. Observers did not serve as Meeting Chair or Subgroup Chair, draft any part of a monograph, or participate in the evaluations. They also agreed not to contact participants before the meeting, not to lobby them at any time, not to send them written materials, and not to offer them meals or other favours. IARC asked and reminded Working Group Members to report any contact or attempt to influence that they may have encountered, either before or during the meeting.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>5</sup> Dr Borghoff reported being a salaried employee of ToxStrategies LLC, which receives undisclosed (but presumed to be substantial) consulting fees from the American Beverage Association and the Calorie Control Council, and that the International Council of Beverages Associations sponsored her travel to and attendance at this IARC meeting.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>6</sup> Dr Elmore reported being the owner of ElmorePathology LLC, which receives substantial consulting fees from the American Beverage Association, which also sponsored her travel to and attendance at this IARC meeting.

#### Thomas Galligan<sup>7</sup>

Center for Science in the Public Interest Washington, District of Columbia USA

#### Bernadene Magnuson<sup>8</sup>

Health Science Consultants Inc. Collingwood, Ontario Canada

#### Laura Voge<sup>9</sup> [withdrew]

Whole Earth Brands Chicago, Illinois USA

## Felicia Wu [attended remotely]

Michigan State University East Lansing, Michigan USA

# **IARC/WHO Secretariat**

Lamia Benbrahim-Tallaa (Rapporteur, Cancer in Experimental Animals)
Shirisha Chittiboyina (Rapporteur, Cancer in Experimental Animals)
Danila Cuomo (Rapporteur, Mechanistic Evidence)
Nathan DeBono (Rapporteur, Cancer in Humans)
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Aline de Conti (*Rapporteur*, *Mechanistic Evidence*) Fatiha El Ghissassi (Rapporteur, Mechanistic *Evidence*) Emma Fontvieille Rhea Harewood John Kaldor (Rapporteur, Mechanistic *Evidence*) Federica Madia (*Responsible Officer and Rapporteur, Mechanistic Evidence)* Heidi Mattock (*Scientific Editor*) Jason Montez (Department of Nutrition and Food Safety Standards/Scientific Advice on Food and Nutrition, WHO) [attended remotely] Elisa Pasqual (Rapporteur, Cancer in Humans) Kim Petersen (Department of Nutrition and Food Safety Standards/Scientific Advice on Food and Nutrition, WHO) Gabrielle Rigutto (Rapporteur, Mechanistic Evidence) Moez Sanaa (Department of Nutrition and Food Safety Standards/Scientific Advice on Food and Nutrition, WHO) Mary Schubauer-Berigan (*Programme Head*; Rapporteur, Cancer in Humans) Hannah Simba Eero Suonio (*Rapporteur*, *Exposure Characterization*) Susana Viegas (Rapporteur, Exposure *Characterization*) Roland Wedekind (Rapporteur, Exposure *Characterization*)

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>7</sup> Dr Galligan reported being a salaried employee of the Center for Science in the Public Interest (CSPI). In this role, he has provided written comments on the safety of aspartame in response to a regulatory docket issued by the United States Department of Health and Human Services. CSPI has previously petitioned the United States Food and Drug Administration to prohibit the use of methyleugenol in food in the USA.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>8</sup> Dr Magnuson reported being part owner of Health Science Consulting Inc. and President of BMagnuson Consulting, receiving consultancy fees from the Calorie Control Council for studies on aspartame toxicity. The Calorie Control Council sponsored her travel to and attendance at this IARC meeting.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>9</sup>Ms Voge reported being a salaried employee and stockholder of Whole Earth Brands, which uses sweeteners being evaluated at this IARC meeting.

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# **Pre- and Post-Meeting Assistance**

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