



# OPIUM CONSUMPTION

VOLUME 126

This publication represents the views and expert opinions of an IARC Working Group on the Identification of Carcinogenic Hazards to Humans, which met remotely, 11–20 September 2020

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IARC MONOGRAPHS  
ON THE IDENTIFICATION  
OF CARCINOGENIC HAZARDS  
TO HUMANS

## IARC MONOGRAPHS

In 1969, the International Agency for Research on Cancer (IARC) initiated a programme on the evaluation of the carcinogenic hazard of chemicals to humans, involving the production of critically evaluated monographs on individual chemicals. The programme was subsequently expanded to include evaluations of carcinogenic hazards associated with exposures to complex mixtures, lifestyle factors and biological and physical agents, as well as those in specific occupations. The objective of the programme is to elaborate and publish in the form of monographs critical reviews of data on carcinogenicity for agents to which humans are known to be exposed and on specific exposure situations; to evaluate these data in terms of cancer hazard to humans with the help of international working groups of experts in carcinogenesis and related fields; and to identify gaps in evidence. The lists of IARC evaluations are regularly updated and are available on the internet at <https://monographs.iarc.who.int/>.

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About the cover: A blunt-bladed instrument is used to scrape the solidified latex from the opium poppy seedpod.  
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