

# Developing ISO standards for research labs

**Project summary:** We will develop ISO standards for cancer research laboratory activities, starting with standards for histopathology laboratories. This will enhance the harmonization and comparability of research approaches.

## Justification

Clinical laboratories and private industry have had to adopt and adhere to international standards for decades now. However, the same has not been required of research laboratories, resulting in a lack of reproducibility and comparability of their findings. Variability in the safety, effectiveness, and accuracy of diagnostic science reduces the comparability of results and impedes collaborations among disciplines and sectors in the field of cancer research.

## Vision

Cancer research quality assured warranted by international standards

## Goals

To develop international standards for cancer research laboratory activities (histopathology and molecular pathology) and to promote quality management of research laboratories in cancer, including possible ISO accreditation

## Target audience

Research laboratories performing diagnostic determinations in the field of cancer research

This project is being developed under IARC's leadership, led by Dr Zisis Kozlakidis and Dr Ian Cree.