



1st Spanish - German Symposium on Tropical Dermatology of the International Society of Dermatology in the Tropics (ISDT)

October 3th-4th 2025

(Check-in from Oct. 2nd, Check-out to Oct. 5th 2025)

Fontilles, Vall de Laguar - Alicante, Spain

EXPLORING THE HISTORY OF LEPROSY IN FONTILLES: “LEGACY AND LESSONS”

In cooperation with
Fundación Fontilles, National Reference Center for Leprosy,
Vall de Laguar - Alicante, Spain



International Society of
Dermatology in the Tropics

fontilles 
salud y desarrollo

Coordinators

Germany:

- Lieutenant Colonel Dr. Andrea Vanegas Ramirez, Bundeswehr Hospital Hamburg, ISDT.
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Fontilles, Spain:

- Dr. Jose Ramón Gomez Echevarria, Medical Director Fundacion Fontilles.
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- Marisa Moll, Administrative Coordinator, Fundacion Fontilles.
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Location

- Poblado Fontilles 1, 03791 Fontilles, Alacant, Spain

Accommodation in the complex building of Fontilles. Price per night per person: 50€.

Payment includes access to all symposium sessions, coffee breaks and meals.

Please note that there is **no industry exhibition at the symposium and no registration fee.**

The location of the Sanatorium is as follows, in Google Maps Poblado Fontilles, 1

[Poblado Fontilles, 1 - Google Maps](#)

To get there by public transport, both from Valencia and Alicante, you have to get to Ondara, and there are several options:

-You can get there by bus with the company www.alsa.es, at certain times there are buses that leave from the airports to Ondara, otherwise you have to get to the bus stations in Valencia or Alicante respectively and then take the bus to Ondara.

-A second option, only from Valencia, is to come by train to Gandia www.renfe.es and then by bus to Ondara with the same company www.alsa.es.

From Ondara to Fontilles there are approximately 18 km, which have to be done by taxi, approximately 25 €.

Another option could be to rent a car directly from the airport to Fontilles.

Preliminary Program

Thursday 02.10.

14:00 – 18:30	Check-in
19:00 – 21:00	Dinner

Friday 03.10.

08:00 – 09:00	Breakfast
09:00 – 12:00	Free time/group activity (to be scheduled)
12:00 – 13:00	Lunch
13:30 – 16:00	Leprosy: Session I

	Introduction, Epidemiology, Transmission
	Classification and Clinical Manifestations
	Leprosy Reactions
	Neurological Aspects
16:00 – 16:30	Coffee break
16:30 – 18:30	Leprosy: Session II
	Diagnostic
	Laboratory
19:00 – 21:00	Dinner

Saturday 04.10.

08:00 – 09:00	Breakfast
09:00 – 12:00	Leprosy: Session III
	History of Fontilles
	Therapy of Leprosy and Leprosy Reactions
	Fieldwork Experiences
12:00 – 13:00	Lunch
13:30 – 16:00	Lectures on Skin Related Neglected Tropical Diseases
16:00 – 16:30	Coffee break
16:30 – 18:30	Interview of Former Leprosy Patients
	Buruli Ulcer
	Close remarks
19:00 – 21:00	Dinner

Sunday 05.10.

08:00 – 09:00	Breakfast
09:00 – 13:00	Check out

Since 1909, Fontilles has been home to thousands of people, most of whom were affected by leprosy. All of them were once separated from the rest of the world by a wall that enclosed the health complex, transforming it into a self-sufficient town with its own life. Fontilles holds a rich heritage, not only material, documentary and human, but also landscape and architectural. Today, Fontilles is a non-profit foundation dedicated to fighting leprosy and its consequences worldwide. It is involved in international cooperation projects to combat leprosy in countries such as India, Mozambique, Malawi, Brazil, and Bolivia. These projects focus on early detection and treatment of leprosy patients, disability prevention and strengthening healthcare systems.

Dr. José Ramón Gómez Echevarría is the Medical Director for Leprosy at Fontilles. He has been working as a physician at the Fontilles Sanatorio since 1986. He leads the International Leprology Courses organised by Fontilles, training medical professionals in the diagnosis and treatment of leprosy. His leadership extends to collaborations in multiple countries, where he works on initiatives to combat leprosy and other neglected tropical diseases.

This symposium has been organized through educational cooperation on skin-related tropical diseases between the ISDT and Fontilles. Participation in this event will provide a deeper understanding of leprosy and other neglected tropical diseases in a historic complex set in the stunning valley of La Vall de Laguar.