

# Jacinto Convit

World **©**rganization



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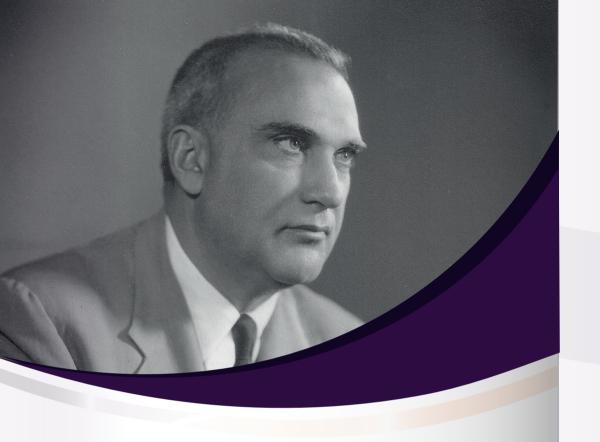
The Jacinto Convit World Organization (JCWO) is a U.S. nonprofit and nongovernmental organization that contributes primarily to important areas of public health, such as cancer and infectious diseases mainly in developing countries with poor health conditions.

The organization is named after Dr. Jacinto Convit (1913-2014), a Venezuelan and world renowned physician, scientist, and humanist, who impacted thousands of people worldwide with his medical studies and interventions along his lengthy career of more than 70 years.



JCWO serves as a platform to preserve, promote and continue Dr. Convit's legacy and scientific efforts, through specialized programs and international projects.

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# **Our history**

Our story dates back to 1938 when Dr. Convit graduated from medical school and moved to the main leprosarium of Venezuela, near the capital city of Caracas.

He wanted to understand the clinical, pathological, social and human aspects of the disease to alleviate the long time suffering and social exclusion of leprosy patients. For years with a team of doctors and pharmacists, he worked to find a drug that could prove that leprosy was curable and with this put an end to the compulsory isolation of patients.

As he achieved this, Venezuela became the first country to close the leprosariums and start treating leprosy patients in their own communities, a model that became a world reference in the treatment of the disease.

For decades he focused on the development of a vaccine to treat leprosy, based on a combination of the *Mycobacterium leprae* and BCG.

His tireless work and studies on infectious diseases that affect the poorest in remote "forgotten" villages, led him a few years later to develop a vaccine to treat leishmaniasis, another devastating cutaneous disease that is endemic in tropical countries. This vaccine was based on his prior model for leprosy, using a mix of *Leishmania* with BCG.

During his last years of life, Dr. Convit took upon a new challenge, cancer, as he saw in this disease an immunosu ppressive behavior similar to that in leprosy and leishmaniasis, and proposed a personalized immunotherapy based on his experiences treating infectious diseases.



# Institutional background

Our institutional background starts in 2010, when a small nonprofit, Asoinmunocáncer, was incorporated to continue Dr. Convit's cancer immunotherapy efforts.

In 2012, Fundación Jacinto Convit (FJC) was founded to preserve, continue and expand his legacy, absorbing the prior organization and "Asociación Civil para la Investigación Dermatológica" founded by Dr. Convit in 1960.

As FJC was fully consolidated, in 2014 JCWO was incorporated in the United States to serve as an international base to promote globally the exemplary life and values of Dr. Jacinto Convit, as well as to continue his projects.

# Philosophy

JCWO's philosophy is based on Dr. Convit's ideals and humanistic approach to develop treatments that can be accessible for underprivileged patients, especially in poorer countries.

We believe that a society is stronger when all its people have access to a good healthcare system, including modern diagnostics and adequate treatments. This is why it is a priority for us to assist those that are most underserved in our communities.

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# Main objectives

- Execute clinical trials using Dr. Convit's immunotherapy, ConvitVax, with the aim of making this treatment available to patients who cannot access new innovative therapies and sometimes even conventional treatments.
- Build collaborative networks with international organizations, hospitals and academia to perform clinical trials and scientific research.
- Support the expansion of a cost-free molecular diagnostic service for cancer, provided by our sister organization FJC in Venezuela, to other patients in the Latin-American region.
- Create social impact in developing countries by giving access to cancer-related health services and treatments to underprivileged patients, especially in places where public health conditions are highly deficient.
- Serve as a platform to preserve, promote and continue Dr. Convit's legacy through scientific and educational programs.



# **Programs**

Cancer Immunotherapy

2 Molecular Diagnostics

This program seeks to make Dr. Convit's breast cancer immunotherapy, ConvitVax, a low cost treatment option for patients. Through partnerships with research and health centers, JCWO works to advance clinical trials in the US, South America and Europe, using this therapy.

It also develops combination therapies using the ConvitVax, to potentiate the anti-tumor effect of the vaccine. Through this program we direct efforts to develop accessible immunotherapy protocols for underprivileged patients who have very little or no access to new cancer treatments and in some cases, standard of care treatments.

A highly specialized diagnostic service is critical for a precise diagnosis, prediction and prognosis of the patient's disease. However this is generally very expensive and inaccessible for many people. The purpose of this program is to contribute to a better healthcare system in developing countries, where health conditions can be deficient. The Molecular Diagnostics program performs a unique service in the Latin American region that provides a free of cost, early, precise and personalized diagnostic service in various types of cancers and infectious diseases, mainly HIV, for children and adults treated in public hospitals. This is the only program in Latin America diagnosing some genetic alterations, such as MYCN and MGMT, using molecular techniques.

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# **Team effort**

Following Dr. Convit's example and philosophy, we are strong believers in the power of team work over individual efforts and the key of having a multidisciplinary team to achieve our goals. JCWO is a reality thanks to the sum of professionals, institutions, collaborators, allies and donors that believe in the importance of preserving and continuing Dr. Convit's work.

We are deeply thankful to everyone that takes part in this project and contributes to improving the lives of others who are in need.

### Work with us

We can perform efficiently and help more communities when our people work together unifying commitment, communication and diversity of capabilities. JCWO always looks to add new qualified talent to its multidisciplinary team. Students and professionals that want to make a positive impact in the world, who are proactive, creative and enthusiastic about working in the nonprofit sector, are welcome to apply.

If you are interested in joining our team get in touch through our site, send us your information and let us know how you wish to participate.



# Join our cause!



With the support of many organizations and individuals, JCWO can carry out its mission and give access to better healthcare solutions to those who need it the most.

Join our cause! On behalf of the patients that benefit from our programs, JCWO truly thanks you for caring and taking action.



## Donate!

### Deposit, transfer or ACH:

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