

IVI  
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# Valencian Infertility Institute

IVI, the Valencian Infertility Institute, was founded in 1990, as the first medical institution in Spain fully dedicated to Assisted Reproduction. Since then it has helped with the birth of more than 110.000 babies thanks to the application of the latest assisted reproduction methods.

This has been possible thanks to the work of a multidisciplinary team comprising close to **2.000 professionals highly specialised** in Gynaecology, Obstetrics, Genetics, Biology, Andrology, Surgery, Maternal-Foetal Medicine, etc. IVI is currently the leader in reproductive medicine due to its rate of results in the clinical field and the fact that it is visited daily by couples from Spain and worldwide. The quality **international** patient care makes IVI clinics a benchmark in their field, particularly at its centres in Alicante, Madrid, Barcelona, Málaga, Bilbao, Sevilla, Las Palmas and Valencia, which have a specialised department. The care provided by a personal assistant in their own language from the start of the treatment, state-of-the-art facilities, good flight connections, no waiting lists and anonymity in treatments with egg donation mean that 30% of IVI patients are foreigners.

IVI currently has more than 50 **centres** in 11 countries. The clinics in Spain are based in Alcorcón, Alicante, Almería, Barcelona, Benalmádena, Bilbao, Cartagena, Castellón, Elche, Las Palmas, Madrid, Málaga, Murcia, Pamplona, San Sebastián, Santander, Sevilla, Valencia, Vigo and Zaragoza. IVI is also present in the following foreign countries: Portugal, Italy, United Kingdom, Mexico, Panama, Argentina, Chile, Brasil, UAE and India.



At IVI's clinics **all current assisted reproduction treatments** are performed: artificial insemination (AI), in vitro fertilisation (IVF), egg donation, intra-cytoplasmic sperm injection (ICSI), preimplantation genetic diagnosis (PGD) and vitrification of oocytes. It is one of the European centres with the best rates of pregnancy; indeed, 9 out of 10 couples who consult IVI for infertility problems achieve their goal.

At IVI, from the start, we have been aware of the need to invest in Research and Development, which is why we created the **IVI FOUNDATION** for the Study of Assisted Reproduction, focused on research and teaching, which also benefits patients as it allows continuing training of the professionals thanks to the continuous study and participation in congresses and meetings worldwide.

The IVI Foundation includes in its statutes the execution of **Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR)** activities within the fields of reproductive medicine, gynaecology and paediatrics with the objective of favouring and helping people with few economic resources, as well as actions of promotion, development and strengthening of volunteers. Our specialists' scientific research and work have been awarded some of the most representative **prizes** in the profession. These include prizes awarded by the American Society for Reproductive Medicine, the Society for Gynaecological Investigation, the Salud 2000 Foundation or the Spanish Fertility Society.



## IVI's Clinical Achievements

- **1996** - The first babies in the world are born in which the pregnancy was achieved with frozen semen originating from the father's testicular tissue.
- **1997** - Development of the embryo coculture technique: in vitro cultivation of embryos with maternal cells to achieve better embryonic quality and a greater rate of pregnancies in sterility treatments.
- **2002** - For the first time in Spain a healthy baby is born to parents who have cystic fibrosis, thanks to Preimplantation Genetic Diagnosis (PGD). This achievement is repeated the following year upon diagnosing type I spinal muscular atrophy (SMA) in embryos of a couple with this disease, also known as Werdnig-Hoffman disease.
- **2003** - The first child of a couple with AIDS is born, where the father was infected with HIV and the mother was not. The baby girl was born without the virus, like her mother, as the mother underwent in vitro fertilisation after the father's semen was washed.
- **2004** - The IVI Foundation achieves the derivation of the first two cell lines in Spain: VAL1 and VAL2.
- **2006** - For the first time in the world, a couple with lymphohistiocytosis (an illness that affects the immune system and is usually fatal) gives birth to a baby that will not develop the illness thanks to Preimplantation Genetic Diagnosis (PGD).



- **2007** - The first baby gestated from vitrified eggs using the Cryo-top technique, created in Japan and pioneering in Spain. For the first time, the cryopreservation of eggs represents a real option for conserving fertility, since women who decide to freeze their eggs will have in the future the same reproductive capacity as the day they decided to cryopreserve them, without the risk of damage to their eggs caused by ageing or medical treatments.
- **2008** - The IVI Foundation set up its Programme for the Preservation of Fertility with the commitment to vitrify for free the eggs and semen of all those people with cancer who wanted to preserve their fertility before undergoing a treatment that could affect their capacity to have children in the future.
- **2009** - The first Spanish identical twins are born, conceived after an implant of ovarian cortex that the mother had preserved, after being diagnosed with cancer.
- **2010** - Juan is born, the first boy in the world selected using Embryoscope, a film incubator that increases the success rate of IVF.
- **2012** - Second successful case of DGP-HLA in Spain: IVI manages to cure Izan, an 11-year-old boy affected by Adrenoleukodystrophy, using Preimplantation Genetic Diagnosis. After obtaining an embryo free of disease and HLA compatible with Izan, it was successfully implanted in the mother's uterus and she became pregnant with twins, leading to the birth of Noa and Leyre, two girls whose stem cells were used to save the life of their brother.
- **2013** - IVI enables a woman who has just recovered from hematologic cancer to become a mother with her own eggs thanks to fertility preservation.



- **2014** - IVI introduces the GCT, a new genetic compatibility test that prevents the transmission of 600 hereditary diseases, which are present in 1 in every 300 new-born babies.
- **2015** - The first baby is born in Spain whose parents both preserved their fertility due to cancer (the father was diagnosed with Ewing sarcoma and the mother with breast cancer). This little boy is the fifth baby to be born through IVI's free fertility preservation programme for oncology patients.
- **2016** - The first baby is born in Spain with Anevivo technology, an innovative device which allows fecundation and embryo development within an small capsule inside mother's uterus. Making the process more natural.



## Professor Antonio Pellicer

### President of IVI

He studied Medicine at the Faculty of Valencia, specialising in Obstetrics and Gynaecology at the Valencia Clinical Hospital, with the subspecialty of Reproductive Medicine at Yale University (USA) and the University of Mainz (Germany).

He became Professor of Obstetrics and Gynaecology at the University of Valencia in 1999 and was Dean of the Faculty of Medicine and Dentistry from 2006 to 2012. He has been Head of the Obstetrics and Gynaecology Department at the La Fe University Hospital since 2009.

Professor Pellicer has been a member of the Executive Board of ESHRE (European Society of Human Reproduction and Embryology), and the International Federation of Fertility Societies. He was President of the Spanish Fertility Society (SEF) from 1994-1996 and is currently a member of the National Commission of Human Assisted Reproduction.

He has published more than 800 articles in prestigious national and international magazines and has written more than 300 chapters of books y he has given more than 475 lectures at conferences all over the world. He is also co-director of the Magazine Fertility & Sterility and member of the editorial boards of several scientific societies.

Professor Pellicer has received many different awards for his contribution to the field of reproductive health, including some very prestigious ones. The American Society for Reproductive Medicine has awarded him the Annual Meeting Prize Paper seven times. He won the XXV Society for Gynaecological Investigation President's Award in 2002, the Premio Rey Jaime I award in the category of Clinical Medicine which was presented by the Fundación Premios Rey Jaime I in Valencia in 2004, the Medalla de Oro award from the Ilustre Colegio Oficial de Médicos de Valencia in 2006, the Fundación Lilly 2008 Award for Biomedical Research, presented by Fundación Lilly in Madrid in 2008, and he received an honorary doctorate from the Polytechnic University of Valencia in 2011. In addition to this he won the Jacques Salat-Baroux Prize which was presented to him by the Académie nationale de Médecine de France in 2014 and the award that recognises IVI as an Honorary Ambassador of Marca España (the Spanish brand) in Science and Innovation in 2015.



## Professor José Remohí President of IVI

He studied Medicine at the University of Valencia, specialising in Obstetrics and Gynaecology at the Clinical Hospital in the same city and within this further specialising in Reproductive Obstetric Endocrinology at the University of California, Irvine (USA). He has also been a maternologist since 1984 and a sexologist since 1986. He is currently Professor of Obstetrics and Gynaecology at the University of Valencia, as well as Director of the Master's in Advanced Gynaecological Endoscopic Surgery at the University of Valencia and Director of the Instituto Universitario IVI. Professor Remohí is a member of the Sociedad Española de Fertilidad (Spanish Fertility Society), the European Society of Human Reproduction and Embryology (ESHRE), the American Society for Reproductive Medicine (ASRM) and he is a member of the Advisory Board of Universidad Europea, among other things.

He is the author of 22 books on reproductive medicine, two of which have been translated into English, one into Portuguese and one into Chinese. He has published more than 650 studies in national and international journals, around 385 chapters in books relating to human reproduction and he has given more than 600 lectures at conferences all over the world. He is ranked fourth at present in the listings of the top researchers in Spain in the category of Obstetrics and Gynaecology, based on the h-index, with a value of 52. Furthermore, he is a reviewer for prestigious journals such as Human Reproduction, the Journal of Assisted Reproduction and Genetics and Cuadernos de Medicina Reproductiva (the Journal of Reproductive Medicine). He is also a member of the editorial board of the latter, as well as for the journal of the Asociación Colombiana de Fertilidad (Colombian Fertility Association), the Revista Ciencia Ginecológica (Journal of Gynaecological Science) and the Revista de Obstetricia y Ginecología de Postgrado (Journal of Postgraduate Obstetrics and Gynaecology).

Professor Remohí has won many prestigious awards for his contribution to the field of reproductive health. These include the Ares-Serono Foundation prize in 1997, awards from the ASRM in 1995, 1999, 2001, 2008 and 2014 and research awards from the Spanish Fertility Society in 1987, 1996, 1998, 2000, 2002 and 2004, to name but a few. Furthermore, he has received various social awards, such as the Protagonistas Onda Cero prize for the best scientific career in 2002, the Premio Investigación Economía 3 award in 2004, a Gold Medal of the City of Valencia for IVI in recognition of its pioneering work in research and education in 2006, the Empresa Revelación del Año (Newcomer of the Year) award from Expansión magazine in 2009, the Tendencias magazine prize in 2015 and the award that recognises IVI as an Honorary Ambassador of Marca España in Science and Innovation in 2015, among others.





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