

Dermatology Without Borders: Addressing Skin and Sexual Health in Humanitarian Crisis.

Combined Course (Residents & Specialists) | 15-17 February 2027 | Valletta, Malta

Description

In 2025, 305 million people needed urgent humanitarian aid due to escalating crises. Conflict and climate change are causing unprecedented displacement, hunger, and destruction. Emerging infectious diseases increasingly present skin manifestations, highlighting the critical role of dermatological signs in early detection and timely public health responses. Moreover, skin often bears the marks of violence and trauma.

The Migrant Health Working Group (MHWG) of the International League of Dermatological Societies (ILDS) brings together expert dermatologists from around the world to improve skin and sexual health for migrants and displaced people, focusing on enhancing access to care, education, advocacy, research, and upholding rights and equity.

The WG developed a toolkit of training materials on common skin conditions, skin Neglected Tropical Diseases (NTDs), and skin signs of torture and violence that will be used for the "Dermatology Without Borders" course.

Learning Objectives

1. To understand epidemiological trends and determinants of migration
2. To diagnose and treat common skin diseases and skin NTDs in migrants and Internally Displaced Persons (IDPs)
3. To identify and respond to violence-related health conditions
4. To understand the role of dermatologists in supporting refugees' health in humanitarian crisis

Faculty

Chairs:	Valeska Padovese, Cristina Galvan
Speakers:	Wendemagegn Embiale, Juan Ortiz-Alvarez, Amna Elyas, Federica Dassoni, Isotta Rossoni
Tutor:	Donia Gamoudi

Programme

Monday, 15 February 2027

13:00–13.30	Registration
13.30-13.45	Welcome and introduction Valeska Padovese

13:45 - 14:20	International migration and displacement: definition and magnitude of the problem Cristina Galvan
14:20-15:00	Common skin diseases in people on the move Juan Ortiz Alvarez
15:00-15:30	Case studies –interactive with students Amna Elyas
15.30-16.00	Coffee Break
16:00-16.40	Skin –NTDs, migration, and climate change Wendemagegn Embiale
16:40-17.20	Skin and Hair manifestations of malnutrition Amna Elyas
17:20-17.45	Case studies –interactive with students Federica Dassoni
17.45-18.00	Discussion - Wrap-up Day 1

Tuesday, 16 February 2027

09:00 - 09:40	Assessing skin signs of violence and torture Valeska Padovese
09. 40 – 10.30	Breakouts: Small groups workshop on “Clinical Examination and Reporting of Victims of Torture”.
10.30-11.00	Case studies – interactive with students Cristina Galvan
11.00-11.30	Coffee Break
11.30-12.10	Sexual and gender-based violence (SGBV) Isotta Rossoni
12:10-13.00	Case studies – interactive with students Juan Ortiz-Alvare, Isotta Rossoni
13:00-14.00	Lunch
1400-14.40	Sexual history taking in migrants with different cultural and religious backgrounds Donia Gamoudi
14.40-15.20	Emerging STIs Wendemagegn Embiale
15.20-16.00	Case studies – interactive with students Donia Gamoudi, Valeska Padovese
16:00-16.30	Coffee Break
16.30-17.10	Ethnic Skin and Hair, and Other Cultural Considerations Federica Dassoni
17.10-18.00	Discussion-Wrap up day 2
20:00	Networking Dinner with participants and faculty members

Wednesday, 17 February 2027

09:00 – 09.30	How to set up a capacity building program to support healthcare workers in camps Cristina Galvan
09.30-10:00	Ethical Considerations in Research with People from Refugee and Asylum Seeker Backgrounds Isotta Rossoni
10.00-10.30	Dermatology Without Borders: important considerations before the field (speakers panel-interactive)
10.30-11.00	Experiences from the students
11.00-11.30	Coffee Break
11.30-12:10	Breakouts: Small group workshops – a specific humanitarian crisis will be assigned to each group, and participants should work together in setting up an intervention to improve access to skin diseases and STIs
12:10-12:50	Groups presentation
12.50- 13.00	Final remarks and course closing Valeska Padovese, Cristina Galvan

The programme might be subject to changes.