

Health authorities deny irregularities in child's medical care in Cuba



Havana, March 28 (RHC)-- Authorities from the Cuban Health System assured this Friday that the medical care provided to a 10-year-old boy in several institutions was uneventful, a case that was the subject of manipulation on social media.

During an appearance on Cuban television, health officials and specialists assured that Damir Ortiz, diagnosed with Plexiform Neurofibromatosis Type 1, received the appropriate care from multidisciplinary teams of professionals.

They also clarified that the resources available in the National Health System were used, and the doctors involved worked with the humanism, sensitivity, love, professionalism, and dedication that characterize them.

According to experts, plexiform neurofibromatosis Type 1 is a genetic disease caused by a mutation in a gene in sperm or egg cells. It has no cure. It affects one in every three thousand people worldwide and can occur in families with no history of the condition.

The patient was first admitted to the Juan Manuel Márquez Children's Hospital and then to the Institutes of Neurology and Neurosurgery, and Hematology and Immunology, before traveling to the United States to continue his treatment.

Studies confirmed that he has mature B-cell leukemia/lymphoma, and the doctors agreed that time was wasted in treating him because, initially, his mother refused to undergo tests at the Children's Hospital.

They also stated that no medication was missing to treat him, although many are imported at very high prices.

In the television broadcast, it was revealed that the child's mother requested a letter from the Children's Hospital acknowledging the impossibility of treating him in the Caribbean nation.

This document was denied because it did not correspond to the reality of medicine in this country and the efforts made in the case. However, she was given the medical history with details of the illness, tests performed, and therapeutic approach.

The specialists also stated that the decisions in the care process were made collegially and that none of them involved bribery, influence peddling, or other illegal practices, as reported on social media.

They also revealed that the misrepresentation of the process on these platforms emotionally affected the professionals involved in the case and their families, and even other patients. When he left the country, they explained, he was already beginning the hematological recovery process, due to the treatment he received in the Caribbean nation.

They expressed that the doctors involved in the case are pleased with the child's progress, as reported on social media.

Participating in the television broadcast were Drs. José Luis Aparicio, an official from the Ministry of Health; Araíz Consuegra, director of the Juan Manuel Márquez Children's Hospital; Orestes López, director of the Institute of Neurology and Neurosurgery; and Wilfredo Roque, director of the Institute of Hematology and Immunology.

[SOURCE: PRENSA LATINA]

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