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Nicaragua: Government Response To Medical Malpractice & Negligence

by Deborah Tyroler

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On Oct. 20, Health Minister Ernesto Salmeron told reporters that since the beginning of the year, 21 persons had died result of medical malpractice and negligence. Salmeron noted that the figure could well be higher as many poor people are reluctant to report such abuses due to "fear or ignorance of the law." The minister said a national committee to monitor and review such cases would be established in the near future. He added that medical personnel responsible for such abuse or negligence will be sanctioned. Salermon said that physicians who inadvertently make such errors would not have their licenses revoked, but would be required to take university refresher courses. (Basic data from ACAN-EFE, 10/20/91)

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