1984 RR-86-106

EUU GMW BRJ
MISC:TRANSPLANT
CUBAN HEART TRANSPLANT PATIENT DIES:
HAVANA, SEPT 5: REUTER -- NANCY CASTILLO MOYA, ONE OF NINE CUBANS TO RECEIVE HEART TRANSPLANTS SINCE DECEMBER 1985 DIED OF HEART FAILURE AS A RESULT OF +A SUDDEN ALTERATION OF CARDIAC RHYTHM,+ GRANMA REPOTED TODAY.

THE TWENTY-TWO YEAR OLD CUBAN WOMEN RECEIVED HER NEW HEART LAST JANUARY 27TH. THE PATIENT HAD SUFFERED FROM A SERIOUS HEART DEFECT FROM THE TIME SHE WAS FOURTEEN MONTHS OF AGE.

NANCY CASTILLO MOYA WAS THE SECOND OF NINE CUBANS TO RECEIVE HEART TRANSPLANTS. THE LATEST OPERATION WAS PERFORMED IN EARLY JULY ON A SIXTY YEAR OLD AIRLINE PILOT. EIGHT OF THE TRANSPALNT PATIENTS SURVIVE.

ON JULY 9 THE NEWSPAPER JUVENTUD REBELDE PUBLLISHED A PHOTO OF NANCY CASTILLO MOYA WALKING ALONG A HAVANA STREET WITH FOUR MAILE HEART TRANSPLANT PATIENTS.

GRANMA SAID THAT THE DEATH OF NANCY MOREJON MOYA CAME AS A SURPRISE TO HER DOCTORS. IT SAID THAT SHE HAD OVERCOME MANY SERIOUS COMPLICATIONS AND THAT THE LAST BIOPSY PERFORMED ON HER HEART SHOWED THAT A TENDENCY TOWARD REJECTION OF THE NEW ORGAN HAD DISAPPEARED.

PUBLIC HEALTH SOURCES HERE SAID THAT ABOUT 500 OEN-HEART OPERATIONS ARE PERFORMED IN CUBA EACH YEAR.

THE SOURCES SIAD THAT THREE HOSPITALS NOW HAVE SPECIALIZED CARDIO-VASCULAR SURGERY UNITS. THESE INCLUDE ONE RECENTLY INAUGURATED AT THE WILLIAM SOLER CHILDREN'S HOSPITAL IN HAVANA. PLANS CALL FOR THE CONSTRUCTION OF THREE MORE SPECIALIZED UNITS NATIONWIDE.

THE PROGRAM FOR ORGAN TRANSPLANTS IN CUBA IS PART OF FIDEL CASTRO'S MASTER PLAN TO TURN HIS ISLAND INTO THE MEDICAL CENTER OF THE THIRD WORLD. AT PRESENT, CUBAN MEDICAL SCHOOLS GRADUATE 3000 PHYSICIANS A YEAR.
==RTR/LEM
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