Russian Nurse Accused of Stealing Medicine From Cancer Patients

November 08, 2016

Pixabay

A nurse in Russia's Far East has been accused by local authorities of stealing vital medicine for cancer patients, according to a statement posted on the website of the regional Prosecutor's Office.

The employee at an oncology center in the Amur region is believed to have systematically stolen drugs worth more than 1 million rubles ($15,700) between January 2015 and October 2016.

The medicine was then reportedly smuggled out of the hospital and resold in Moscow, according to the statement.

The Russian government extended its list of approved painkillers in July after cancer patients in Moscow faced shortages of certain medications over the summer.

Pressure groups have long campaigned for cancer patients to receive easier access to drugs

across Russia, with many claiming that current rules have led to a number of suicides among terminally ill people. According to Podari Zhizn, a foundation which helps cancer patients obtain pain medication, just 20–30 percent of patients receive the painkillers they need.

Original url:
https://www.themoscowtimes.com/2016/11/08/russian-nurse-accused-of-stealing-medicine-from-cancer-patients-a56047