The Moscow Times
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Navalny Leaves German Hospital One Month After Near-Fatal Poisoning

September 23, 2020



Navalny was discharged from inpatient care after 32 days of treatment. **Instagram / navalny**

Kremlin critic Alexei Navalny has been discharged from hospital after more than a month of treatment in Germany for his near-fatal poisoning with Novichok, Berlin's Charité hospital said Wednesday.

Navalny, 44, was flown to Germany two days after falling violently ill on a flight in Siberia on Aug. 20. Germany says it has evidence backed by French and Swedish scientists that the fierce critic of President Vladimir Putin was poisoned by a Novichok nerve agent, while Russia denies that he was poisoned.

Related article: Navalny Says Novichok Found 'In and On' His Body

Charité said Navalny was discharged from inpatient care on Tuesday after 32 days of treatment, 24 of which were spent in intensive care.

“Based on the patient’s progress and current condition, the treating physicians believe that complete recovery is possible,” the hospital said.

Charité reiterated its previous assertions that “it remains too early to gauge the potential long-term effects of his severe poisoning.”

Following the news of his discharging Wednesday, the Kremlin said Navalny is free to return to Moscow, "like any other Russian citizen."

In keeping with the Kremlin's tradition of not using Navalny's name, spokesman Dmitry Peskov said he would welcome news that "the patient really is getting better," and wished him "a speedy recovery."

Russia maintains that Navalny was not poisoned but either had a metabolic disease or low blood sugar.

When urged to investigate the Aug. 20 incident, Russian officials complained that Germany hadn't shared its findings and that Navalny’s aides took potential evidence out of the country.

AFP contributed reporting.

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