

Hospital heads charged with negligence in swine flu death

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Egypt's Health Minister Hatem el Gabali

Assistant Egypt's Health Minister Muhammad Mustafa referred the directors of three hospitals to public prosecutors for their roles in the death of Noura Hashem, Egypt's sixth fatality from the H1N1 virus, or "swine flu"

According to informed sources, investigations conducted by the Administrative Control Authority found that Hashem might have survived had the three hospitals in which she received treatment -- Imbaba Fever Hospital, Omraneya Chest Hospital and Om el-Masreyeen Hospital -- performed their jobs properly. Investigations also revealed that officials at the Imbaba Fever Hospital had initially refused to admit Hashem, sources add.

Mustafa accused the directors of the three hospitals of negligence that resulted in Hashem's death.

The 25-year-old victim was hospitalized on 28 October and died on 2 November.

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