RESPONSES TO INFORMATION REQUESTS (RIRs)

ALB103123.E 20 May 2009

Albania: Whether health officials at hospitals and clinics are required to report cases of trauma, accidents and injuries to the police; procedures for reporting these cases

Research Directorate, Immigration and Refugee Board of Canada, Ottawa

Information on reporting obligations of health officials in Albania was scarce among the sources consulted by the Research Directorate. In correspondence with the Research Directorate, the General Director of the Ministry of Health for Albania stated that when a person is taken to a hospital as a result of trauma, accident or injury, health officials are required to notify the police (Albania 12 May 2009). According to the General Director, doctors are not required to complete a report and submit it to the police (ibid.). Instead, police officials who are usually already present at accident sites, complete a standard form called an "accident form" based on the medical records and submit it to the Road Traffic Directorate at the General Directorate of the Police (ibid.).

According to the General Director, more than half of trauma injuries are treated at the Military University Hospital in Tirana where there is a trauma department which includes emergency, orthopaedic and neurosurgery services (ibid.). A police unit near this hospital is responsible for completing a report when an injured person arrives; the form is then sent to the General Directorate of the State Police (ibid.).

The General Director stated that in other hospitals, the shift physician notifies the local police of the injury or accident and the police complete a report based on the clinical record (ibid.). According to the General Director, the form completed by the police is standard for all regions of Albania (ibid.). This information could not be corroborated among the sources consulted by the Research Directorate.

This Response was prepared after researching publicly accessible information currently available to the Research Directorate within time constraints. This Response is not, and does not purport to be, conclusive as to the merit of any particular claim for refugee protection. Please find below the list of sources consulted in researching this Information Request.

Reference


Additional Sources Consulted