

## 8 documented deaths in 2019 of Cuba's health workers in international medical missions

in chronological order by date of death



**Olga Sánchez Rojas, M.D.**, age 56, died in Quito, Ecuador, April 30, 2019 when of a gas leak in her apartment caused an explosion (it injured nine other persons).

**Roberto Celorrio Rodríguez, M.D.**, age 50, was stabbed to death June 18, 2019 in Cuenca, Ecuador. He had been working at the José Carrasco Arteaga Hospital for over a year.



**Julio Oliva Vargas, M.D.**, age 36. The anesthesiologist was found dead July 6, 2019 in a bathroom at the Marco Vinicio hospital, province of Sucumbíos, Ecuador, where he had been working for three years. A cause of death was not reported.

**Reinier Estrada Batchelor, M.D.**, age 34. The imaging specialist was found dead July 22, 2019 in the X-Ray room of Hospital Básico de Amaluza, Ecuador. A cause of death was not reported.



**Odalys Barrios Diego, M.D.** Died August 26, 2019 from unknown causes in Belize

**Juan Obana Borges, M.D.** a

The specialist in intensive care and internal medicine died September 11, 2019 in a bathroom at the Charles de Gaulle airport in Paris of a reported heart attack after being notified that France would not accept his asylum request. He had just been expelled from the medical mission in Mauritania and was being escorted back to Cuba by Cuban State Security agents. Dr. Borges had been overworked and under extreme stress after refusing to release a patient from the ICU and, subsequently, to accept a transfer (demotion) to a hospital far from the capital.



**Luisa Cardentey.** The nurse died September 26, 2019 from unreported causes in Ixcán, Guatemala.

**Marisol Noa, M.D.** The head of Cuba's contingent delivering eye care (Operación Milagro) in Guatemala, died December 1, 2019 in Cuba of an unspecified illness contracted in Guatemala.

