

Polish reproductive rights protesters decry death of woman denied life-saving abortion

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Warsaw, November 9 (RHC)-- In Poland, tens of thousands of people took to the streets over the weekend to protest the death of a 30-year-old pregnant woman who died in September after she was refused treatment amid Poland's near-total ban on abortions.

Advocates say Izabela, known as Iza, is the first person to die as a result of the draconian anti-choice law, as doctors refused to abort a fetus that showed numerous defects, and delayed offering care to Iza until a fetal heartbeat could no longer be detected.

One of the protesters in Warsaw told reporters: “‘I don't want to die,’ Iza said to a woman in the hospital room. Iza did not receive help because she was pregnant, because the heart of the fetus was still beating. ... Iza could have lived. There was enough to take care of her, her health and her life. Iza died on September 22nd from sepsis. Iza was a mother, daughter, wife, sister and a friend.”

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