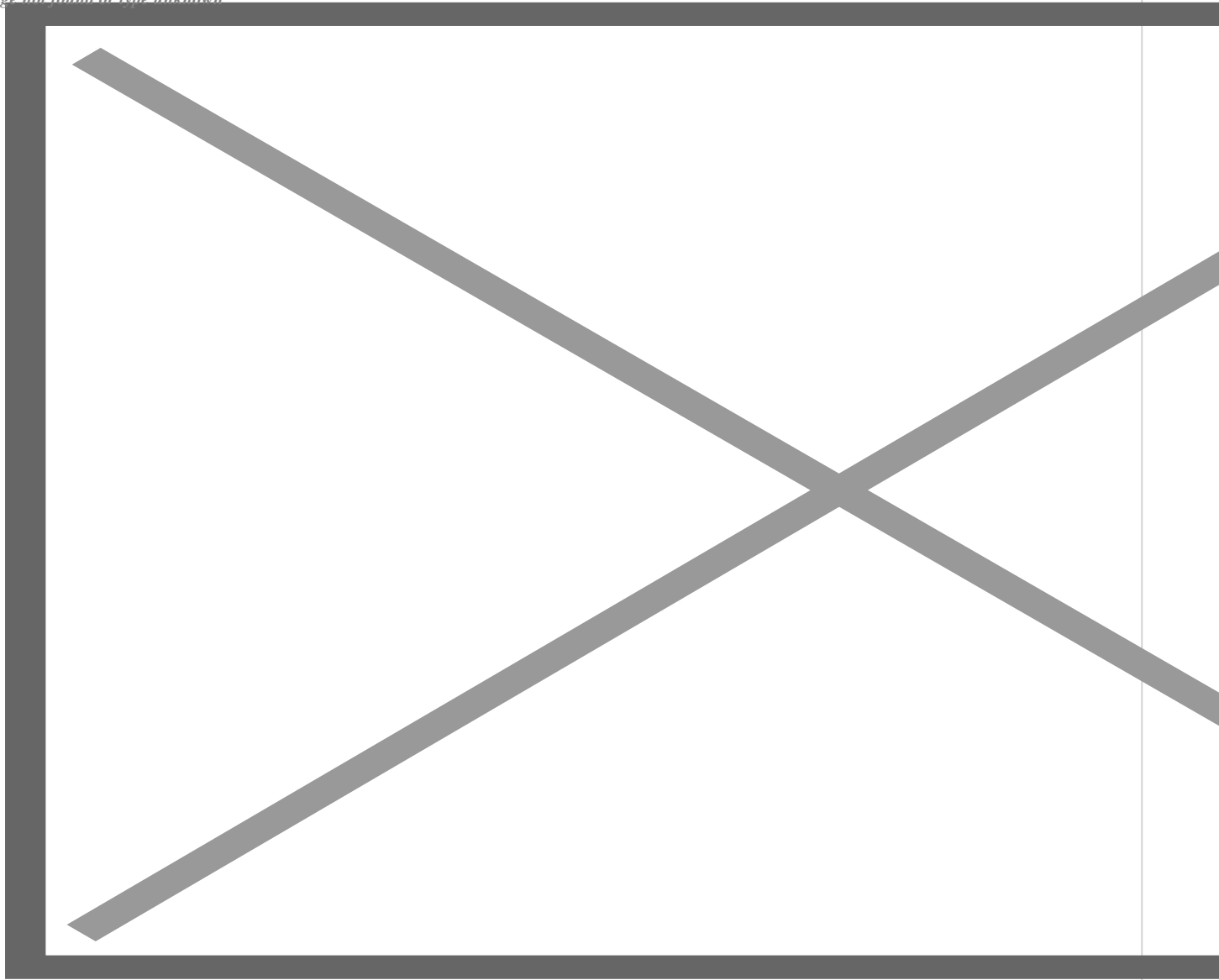


AMLO says Cuban doctors will get same treatment as Mexicans

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Mexican President Andres Manuel Lopez Obrador reiterated Wednesday that Cuban doctors hired by his government will receive the same treatment as nationals, including the issue of their protection and security.

Mexico City, July 27 (RHC)-- Mexican President Andres Manuel Lopez Obrador reiterated Wednesday that Cuban doctors hired by his government will receive the same treatment as nationals, including the issue of their protection and security.

In response to a question on the matter during his morning press conference at the National Palace, the President stated that all Mexicans have to protect them, beyond the government's measures.

He explained that in Nayarit, where the experience of hiring foreign doctors, for now Cubans, is starting, the number of specialists is already at 78 percent, the existence of free medicines is at 94 percent in the whole health structure, and they will soon continue with the states of Tlaxcala and Colima.

This means, he clarified, that the hospitals and health centers in Nayarit are equipped, they have operating rooms like the hospital in Rosamorada, which had only one and even had air conditioning problems, and a lot of neglect.

He said that these are the third level health units throughout the state, if I am not mistaken, two in each town, where 75 percent of the specialists are already covered, although the purpose is to have them all, which implies medical attention 24 hours a day, early morning shifts and weekends, that is why we are talking about an exemplary health model, that is the commitment.

We are helped, he said, by Mexican doctors and nurses and by the people, as in the Rosamorada hospital where there is already a group of Cubans, in which a citizens' council has been organized, and 99 percent of the temporary employees have also become permanent employees.

He also revealed that training centers have been opened for one hundred percent of the second level of care and 55 percent for the first level, in addition to the fact that all those facilities have been repaired and have their own base of medicines, prescriptions and pharmacies in the hospitals.

In Nayarit, he said, that is the result for this first group of Cuban doctors. I cannot say about the other states where they are going to work because now we are going to apply this experience there and we hope that this will be the case not only in Tlaxcala and Colima, but also in the whole country.

He announced that he will soon travel to those two states that will receive Cubans to do the same review and evaluation as in Nayarit, which is done in agreement with the governors.

With the Cuban doctors, he said, we are going to finish covering the sectors with a deficit of specialists, but he clarified that they will not be enough for us and we are looking at other countries because it is very serious what happened in Mexico due to the neoliberal governments that rejected the training of doctors and in particular of specialists.

He said that his government is opening medical and nursing schools all over the country, there are already about 40 in the most remote areas and we are expanding that number.

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