

# *Ukrainian Scientists Call for Resumption of Cuban Medical Program for Chernobyl Children*

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Kiev, May 19 (RHC) — Participants at a scientific conference in Kiev have urged the Ukrainian government and parliament to resume the joint medical program with Cuba for the children affected by the Chernobyl nuclear disaster.

The forum, which marked the 25th anniversary of the opening of the medical program, was hosted by the National Research Center for Radiological Medicine at the Academy of Medical Sciences.

A final document adopted by the forum urges the Ukrainian president, his government and parliament to make sure the program continues.

Nearly 24,000 Ukrainian children were treated in Cuba free of charge, with hundreds of them under specialized attention for damage to their central nerve system, heart and sight. Meanwhile, another 400 children were treated for cancer and blood diseases.

But regrettably, the program was suspended in 2012 and hundreds of children remained without medical support, which can be received in Cuba, the document reads.

The forum gave birth to a non-governmental organization that will protect the rights and interests of those under the Ukrainian-Cuban medical program for the affected by the Chernobyl nuclear accident.

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