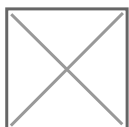


Decision-makers of the Balti Clinical Hospital - targeted in criminal cases for corruption. The NAC also is conducting actions at district hospitals in Drochia and Edineț



The National Anti-corruption Centre (NAC), under the leadership of prosecutors from the Balti Municipal Prosecutor's Office, is conducting procedural actions in 9 corruption cases targeting decision-makers of the Public Medical and Sanitary Institution "Balti Clinical Hospital", including the director who was detained for 72 hours. Thus, acts of abuse of office, influence peddling and passive corruption, committed in the context of public procurement procedures and the hospital's internal administrative activity, are being investigated.

According to the case materials, the decision-makers of the IMSP "Balti Clinical Hospital", acting in their personal interest and that of some economic agents, allegedly facilitated the circumvention of legal public procurement procedures, favouring an economic agent with whom 12 small-value contracts were concluded, totalling approximately 4 million lei. These actions caused significant damage to the institution. Also, during the investigations, an attempt to influence the process of purchasing medical equipment was documented, in which an economic agent allegedly promised the director a commission of 50,000 lei, in exchange for favouring his offer during the auction.

At the same time, the hospital director is suspected of periodically receiving money from some of his subordinates for various favours such as: not including unexcused absences in the timesheets; granting awards and leave, facilitating hospitalizations and medical interventions for relatives of some employees. In the same case, the vice-director of the institution is being investigated for passive corruption, being suspected of having requested and received money from patients in his office in exchange for recommending surgical interventions and favouring them in the hospitalization process.

The investigations are ongoing, and in this context, actions have been initiated to seize documents from the IMSP "Drochia District Hospital" and the IMSP "Edineț District

Hospital" - institutions that could be involved in similar acts.

We remind that during the criminal investigation, all persons benefit from the presumption of innocence, until a final and irrevocable court decision is pronounced.