

Pope's Health Unchanged on Day 27 in Hospital, Vatican Reports

Pope Francis' health remained stable on Wednesday as doctors confirmed further improvements in his condition, according to the Vatican.

A chest X-ray performed on Tuesday showed continued progress over the past few days. The Vatican's evening update assured that the pope remains under close medical supervision and is responding well to treatment. Despite the challenges of his illness, he continues to receive the necessary care to support his recovery.

The 88-year-old pontiff is still undergoing high-flow oxygen therapy during the day. At night, he receives noninvasive mechanical ventilation to assist his breathing. These treatments have been ongoing since his hospitalization on February 14, following a diagnosis of bilateral pneumonia.

Ongoing Treatment and Recovery

On Wednesday morning, Pope Francis participated in the Spiritual Exercises remotely from the Paul VI Hall. He received the Eucharist, dedicated time to prayer, and later engaged in motor physiotherapy. His routine also included respiratory physiotherapy, which has been an essential part of his recovery plan.

Medical experts previously lifted the pope's prognosis on Monday, meaning he is no longer in immediate danger. However, his condition remains complex due to the severity of his illness. Doctors are taking extra precautions, ensuring he continues his pharmacological therapy in a hospital environment.

The Vatican confirmed that his latest blood test results and clinical evaluations indicate a positive response to treatment. This progress has strengthened hopes for his full recovery, but caution remains as doctors carefully monitor his condition.

Hospitalization and Initial Diagnosis

Pope Francis was admitted to Rome's Gemelli Hospital on February 14 after experiencing respiratory distress. Tests later confirmed he had bilateral pneumonia, a serious condition affecting both lungs. Given his age and medical history, doctors moved quickly to provide intensive treatment.

Upon his admission, the pope required advanced respiratory support. High-flow oxygen therapy and noninvasive mechanical ventilation were introduced to aid his breathing. He was also placed on a targeted medication plan to fight the infection and reduce inflammation in

his lungs.

Despite showing positive signs of improvement, Vatican sources have emphasized that the pope's condition requires ongoing medical attention. His doctors remain cautious, ensuring that every aspect of his recovery is managed carefully to avoid potential setbacks.

Concerns About Pope Francis' Health

This is not the first time Pope Francis has faced serious health concerns. In recent years, he has struggled with several medical issues, including knee pain that has required him to use a wheelchair. In 2021, he underwent intestinal surgery to remove part of his colon due to a severe narrowing of the intestine.

His current hospitalization has raised concerns about his ability to continue leading the Catholic Church at full capacity. Vatican officials have assured the public that he remains actively involved in church affairs, even from his hospital room. He has continued to follow religious exercises, pray, and participate in limited activities.

While the Vatican has not provided a specific timeline for his discharge, officials remain optimistic about his recovery. However, they stress that his return to normal duties will depend on medical evaluations and his overall progress in the coming days.

12th Anniversary of His Papacy

Thursday will mark the 12th anniversary of Pope Francis' election as the head of the Catholic Church. He was chosen to succeed Pope Benedict XVI, who resigned in 2013.

During his 12 years as pope, Francis has focused on reforming the church, addressing social justice issues, and promoting inclusivity. His leadership has been recognized globally, particularly for his advocacy for the poor, environmental protection, and efforts to modernize church teachings.

As he continues his recovery, the Catholic community remains hopeful for his full return to health. Supporters around the world have expressed their prayers and well-wishes, hoping for his continued strength.

For now, Pope Francis will remain at Gemelli Hospital, where he will continue receiving treatment while gradually resuming limited activities. The Vatican will provide further updates as his condition progresses.