



To: Health Professional Network

From: Special Thematic Issues

Date: 23 September 2010

Health Professional Action
Iraq: Prisoner receives medical treatment

(Further information on MDE 14/011/2010 of 9 September 2010)

Amnesty International has received confirmation from the Belgian embassy in Jordan that Oussama Atar has been transferred to the prison of Nasseriyah, a city in the south of the country. The prison is equipped with some of the most modern medical facilities of any prison in Iraq. According to the latest information, the transfer happened this summer thanks to efforts by the Belgian embassy.

The Belgian embassy in Jordan has told Amnesty International that a fibroscopy conducted in August confirmed the presence of a tumour in Oussama Atar's kidney and that, according to the prison authorities, tests would be carried out at al-Hussein Hospital in September 2010 and would be followed by surgery. This is likely to take place in the same hospital before the end of September. According to information received by Amnesty International, efforts by the Belgian embassy have been crucial in allowing Oussama to obtain the medical treatment he is undergoing.

We will continue to follow the case closely and will update members of the outcome of the medical intervention.

No further action is requested from the health professional network. Many thanks to all who sent appeals.