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PTI Leader Yasmin Rashid Moved to Lahore Hospital as Health Worsens in Jail

July 16, 2025

— Categories: Human Rights



On July 15, 2025, Dr. Yasmin Rashid, a senior Pakistan Tehreek-e-Insaf (PTI) leader, was urgently transferred to Services Hospital in Lahore after experiencing severe health issues at Kot Lakhpat Jail. The 74-year-old cancer survivor, detained since May 2023, was suffering from acute breathing difficulties and abdominal pain, raising serious concerns about her treatment in custody.

Dr. Rashid's condition deteriorated rapidly, prompting her transfer to the hospital's emergency department, where she received oxygen support. According to her lawyer, Rana Mudassar, she was "struggling to breathe and suffering intense stomach pain." Hospital officials later confirmed her admission to the Cardiac Care Unit (CCU), reporting high blood pressure, elevated heart rate, and gastric complications. After medical intervention, her condition stabilized.

Dr. Rashid's arrest is connected to multiple cases related to the May 9, 2023 riots that followed PTI founder Imran Khan's arrest. Charges include violations under the Maintenance of Public Order (MPO) ordinance and allegations related to the attack on Jinnah House.

PTI has strongly condemned her prolonged detention. Information Secretary Sheikh Waqas Akram called for immediate bail, highlighting that Dr. Rashid has been "unjustly imprisoned for 24 months." Former PTI leader Fawad Chaudhry described her treatment as a "travesty of justice," asserting that her continued detention without trial violates constitutional rights.

This is not Dr. Rashid's first health scare in custody. She was previously hospitalized in May and July 2024 for dehydration and hypertension. These recurring medical emergencies have fueled broader criticism regarding prison healthcare and the treatment of political detainees.

As Dr. Rashid continues treatment, her case intensifies the ongoing debate about justice, human rights, and the plight of political prisoners in Pakistan. PTI is calling for fresh elections and the release of its detained leaders.