

Update: Top Things to Know About Pope Francis' Health Condition

The Vatican reported that the 88-year-old pontiff suffered two episodes of acute respiratory distress. Pope Francis experienced further respiratory complication Monday, requiring a return to noninvasive mechanical ventilation. Doctors performed two bronchoscopies to clear his airways. The Vatican reports he is now using high-flow ventilation again.

Despite these setbacks, Pope Francis remains in stable condition at Rome's Gemelli Hospital. According to the Vatican, he was awake, had breakfast and was receiving therapies after a restful night.

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Questions remain about his overall prognosis. While the Vatican insists the pope is alert and cooperating with medical staff, no photos or videos have been released since he was hospitalized Feb. 14, for a severe lung infection. This marks the longest public absence of his 12-year papacy.