

WEEKLY REPORT

10/28/2023



BRAZIL DID NOT PREPARE THE HEALTH SYSTEM TO SERVE THE AGING POPULATION; SEE 8 MAIN CHALLENGES

Although studies showed decades ago that Brazil would experience accelerated population aging as portrayed by the 2022 Census numbers released this Friday, 27th, and that this would require preparation of the health system to deal with new epidemiological demands, the country was unable to move forward quickly enough and will now face an even more challenging scenario for the coming years, according to experts, highlighted by an article from Estado de S.Paulo. If, on the one hand, population aging should be celebrated as a reflection of medical advances and better living conditions, on the other, having an older population brings with it the burden of increasing the incidence of health problems such as cardiovascular diseases, cancers and dementias. In Brazil, this challenge is aggravated by the shortage of specialized professionals and beds in long-term care or rehabilitation institutions, the lack of day care centers and home services and age prejudice. The absence of public policies that promote the integration of elderly people and encourage social connections has an impact on the mental health of this population, which has increasing rates of depression and other disorders. Some of the main challenges of population aging for the Brazilian health system, pointed out by experts are: undetected or decompensated chronic diseases, bottlenecks in the diagnosis and treatment of cancer, dementia and mental disorders (an increase in patients with Alzheimer's and other dementias is also expected in countries with greater proportion of elderly people), osteoarticular problems, lack of prevention policies, shortage of professionals and beds, Burden of care on family members - especially women and Overlapping inequalities. [Read more.](#)

COMMITTEE PASSES BILL TO ESTABLISH NATIONAL URINARY INCONTINENCE DAY

The Health Committee of the House of Representatives approved, this Wednesday (25), Bill 694/2022, originating from the Federal Senate, to create the National Urinary Incontinence Day and National Week for Prevention and Treatment of Urinary Incontinence. Sponsored by Senator Nelsinho Trad (PSD-MS), the text aims to define March 14th as National Urinary Incontinence Day, and determines that actions for prevention and treatment should be carried out during the national week of the disease. [Read more.](#)

CONGRESSWOMAN WILL ANALYZE BILL ABOUT TREATMENT FOR PATIENTS WITH URINARY INCONTINENCE IN THE SUS AND HEALTH PLANS

The Social Security, Social Assistance, Childhood, Adolescence and Family Committee (CPASF) of the House of Representatives appointed representative Laura Carneiro (PSD-RJ) as rapporteur of Bill 5922/2013, which proposes the obligation of the Unified Health System and of private health care plans and insurance in providing comprehensive and adequate treatment for urinary incontinence. The PL is authored by former deputies Dr. Jorge Silva (PDT-ES) and Sergio Vidigal (PDT-ES). [Read more.](#)

SUS CANCER PATIENTS LIVE LESS THAN THOSE TREATED IN THE PRIVATE SYSTEM

Cancer patients treated in the SUS (Unified Health System) live less than those who care for the disease in the private system. This is what a study presented at the annual conference of

the American Society of Clinical Oncology, the largest in the field in the world, highlighted in a report from Folha de S. Paulo. The work analyzed the survival of 132 thousand patients who were diagnosed with the 17 most common types of tumor in 19 hospitals in Rio Grande do Sul. For 13 varieties, the public system rate was lower. The greatest disparity recorded was in thyroid disease, with a 226% lower rate among those who were treated in the SUS. The basis for comparison is an overall survival of five years, a common standard in medicine to quantify the life span of patients who died from any cause. In bladder, ovarian, uterine and leukemia cancers there was no statistical difference between the two groups. Individuals with a confirmed diagnosis between 2005 and 2017 were included. Some factors are pointed out by Fernando Maluf, oncologist at Albert Einstein Hospital and co-author of the research, as causes of the disparity: deficit in the disease tracking program and the long window between suspicion, diagnosis and initiation of treatment, which allows the cancer to spread throughout the body. [Read more.](#)

COMMITTEE DEBATES THE INCORPORATION AND AVAILABILITY OF DRUGS IN THE UNIFIED HEALTH SYSTEM FOR BREAST CANCER

The Special Committee to Combat Cancer in the House of Representatives held a public hearing this Tuesday (24) to discuss the incorporation and availability of drugs for the treatment of breast cancer. The hearing was requested and chaired by deputy Flávia Moraes (PDT-GO) and is part of the Pink October. Representing the Ministry of Health, the general coordinator of the National Cancer Prevention and Control Policy, Fernando Maia, discussed the acquisition of medicines by the Ministry. He emphasized that, in the Annual Budget Law (LOA) of 2023, there was no budgetary allocation for the incorporation of oncological medicines, but this inclusion was made in the 2024 LOA. [Read more.](#)

SUS DIGITAL POLICY PROPOSAL IS PRESENTED BY THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH

The Luiz Inácio Lula da Silva (PT) government presented this Thursday (26/10) the structuring axes of the SUS Digital Brasil and SUS Digital Brasil Telessaúde program, reported the website Jota. The ordinances for the two projects were released during the tripartite meeting by the Secretariat of Information and Digital Health (Seidigi). The SUS Digital Brazil ordinance follows a National Digital Health Maturity Index (INMSD), with the dimensions: management and governance, infrastructure and security, systems, platforms and interoperability, telehealth, human resources in digital health, innovation ecosystem, monitoring, evaluation and dissemination of information. Ana Estella Haddad, secretary of Seidigi, highlighted that the program is still under construction, and each stage will be incorporated little by little. [Read more.](#)

NATIONAL SPECIALIZED CARE POLICY IS APPROVED BY THE NATIONAL HEALTH COUNCIL

Promote comprehensive service, with coordination between different levels of care and greater system resolution. These are some of the main challenges of the Unified System (SUS) that the recently approved National Specialized Care Policy (Pnae) aims to resolve, highlighted an article on the CNS website. The new Pnae was approved at the last Ordinary Meeting of the National Health Council (CNS), on October 19, in Salvador. The CNS contribution to the formulation of the policy took place in a workshop promoted by the Ministry of Health last September, with the presence of the CNS intersectoral committees. [Read more.](#)

MINISTER OF HEALTH NÍSIA TRINDADE PRESENTS ACTIONS DURING PUBLIC HEARING AT THE FEDERAL SENATE

The Social Affairs (CAS) and Human Development and Participatory Legislation (CDH) Committees of the Federal Senate received, this Wednesday (25), the Minister of Health, Nísia Verônica Trindade Lima, in order to provide information on the challenges, goals, planning and government guidelines of the Ministry. [Read more.](#)

GENE ANALYSIS PROGRAM FOR RARE DISEASES IS FACED WITH A LACK OF FUNDING AND STRUCTURE

The Hospital Israelita Albert Einstein, in São Paulo, wants to increase the number of people served by the Rare Genomes program, which performs the genetic sequencing of rare diseases in Brazil, according to a report from Folha de S.Paulo. This year, the goal of sequencing the DNA of 8,500 people was achieved. By 2026, the idea is to serve another 20 thousand. According to João Bosco, the doctor who coordinates the initiative, the lack of public funds to expand the program and the shortage of qualified professionals delays the report and analysis of sequencing, in addition to creating a waiting list for new patients. The project is financed by Proadi-SUS and is part of Genomas Brasil (National Genomics and Precision Health Program), created by the Ministry of Health in 2020 to establish the basis for the development of precision health and implementation of the modality in the public system. The goal announced at the beginning of the program was 100,000 sequences. [Read more.](#)

MINISTRY OF HEALTH WILL PROVIDE INFORMATION ABOUT HIGH-COST DRUGS AND SURGERIES

Representative Amom Mandel (Cidadania-AM) presented Request 2600/2023, which asks for information from the Ministry of Health about the initiatives and measures adopted to reduce procedural deadlines for obtaining high-cost drugs and carrying out surgeries. The Congressman emphasized the delay in procedural deadlines for obtaining medicines causes a direct compromise in the exercise of this right, since patients who depend on specific treatments find themselves entangled in legal bureaucracy, which can worsen health conditions, increase suffering and, in turn, extreme cases, even resulting in death. [Read more.](#)

STEVANATTO FAMILY TO SELL 50% STAKE IN DRUGMAKER CRISTÁLIA

The Stevanatto family, which owns 50% of Brazilian drugmaker Cristália, has put its share of the business up for sale, Valor has learned. However, the decision has led to a dispute with the Pacheco family, which owns the other 50% of the company founded in 1969. The Stevanatto family, now in its third generation, hired Itaú BBA to put its share up for sale. The Pacheco family, which had the right of first refusal, feels that the price offered for the stake was too high and filed a lawsuit to have the amount better determined. [Read more.](#)

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