

WEEKLY REPORT

02/24/2024



MINISTER OF HEALTH DISMISSES SECRETARY OF PRIMARY CARE

The Minister of Health, Nísia Trindade, dismissed this Wednesday, 21st, the secretary of Primary Health Care, Nésio Fernandes. This is the first exchange that the minister has made in the secretaries since she took office in January 2023, reported the newspaper O Globo. The person taking over is the Program Director of the Primary Health Care Secretariat, Felipe Proença de Oliveira. Primary Health Care is responsible for programs such as Mais Médicos, Saúde na Escola and Brasil Sorridente. In a note this Thursday (22) after the publication of the report, the Ministry of Health stated that 'adjustment in the department's team is a natural process throughout management and was not based on any type of internal or external pressure'. The dismissal comes after a request from the Chair of the House of Representatives, Arthur Lira (PP), and party leaders questioning the minister about the criteria for distributing funds for Primary Care and High Complexity. The document, signed by Lira on February 5, also raises questions about the payment criteria for parliamentary amendments. [Read more.](#)

ALMOST HALF OF HEALTHCARE CEOS IN BRAZIL SEE THEIR BUSINESS AS UNVIABLE IN 10 YEARS

Almost half (42%) of CEOs of healthcare companies in Brazil believe that their businesses will not be economically viable for more than 10 years, highlighted a report by Estado from S. Paulo. The jump was big compared to the previous year, when 27% of the presidents of healthcare operators, hospitals, pharmaceutical companies and laboratories shared this vision. The data comes from the 27th edition of the CEO Survey, an annual survey by PwC, which interviewed more than 4,700 executives from different sectors in 105 countries, including 32 CEOs of healthcare companies in Brazil, in the last quarter of 2023. [Read more.](#)

BILL TO INCLUDE PROSTATE CANCER IN THE COMPREHENSIVE CARE PROGRAM FOR MEN'S HEALTH IN THE SUS RETURNS TO THE SENATE

Bill 5899/2009, which amends Law No. 9,263, of January 12, 1996, which regulates § 7 of art. 226 of the Federal Constitution, which deals with family planning, establishes penalties and provides other measures, to include prostate cancer among the diseases whose control and prevention must be part of the comprehensive care program for men's health within the scope of the Unified Health System and ensure offering genetic counseling in cases where there is clinical indication. The proposal will now be processed as Bill 282/2024 (Amendment - CD). [Read more.](#)

ANVISA APPROVES FIRST RADIOLIGAND TARGET THERAPY FOR PROSTATE CANCER

The National Health Surveillance Agency (Anvisa) approved the first radioligand therapy, which combines the use of radiopharmaceuticals with target therapy, for the treatment of castration-resistant Metastatic Prostate Cancer in Brazil. Vipivotide tetraxetan (177 Lu) is indicated for the treatment of adult patients with prostate-specific membrane antigen (PSMA)-positive metastatic castration-resistant prostate cancer (mCRPC) who have been treated with androgen receptor pathway inhibition (AR) and taxane-based chemotherapy. [Read more.](#)

SUS COULD SPEND R\$7.84 BILLION IN 2040 ON CANCER TREATMENT, SAYS INCA

Specialists from the Pan American Health Organization (PAHO), regional office of the World Health Organization (WHO) for the Americas, and the National Cancer Institute (Inca), reinforced this Tuesday (20) the prevention, early detection and adequate treatment of cancer. This was the tone of a virtual meeting held by experts to mark World Cancer Day, on the 4th, reported Agência Brasil. One of the highlights presented was the Latin American and Caribbean Code against Cancer (LAC Code), which lists prevention measures that must be followed by people and guidelines to be followed by authorities, such as disease screening policies and vaccine application, as in the case of HPV (human papilloma virus, which causes cervical cancer). The Latin American guideline is made up of 17 actions, including already widespread guidelines, such as avoiding smoking, physical exercise, weight control and healthy eating. [Read more.](#)

LEUKEMIA: 11 THOUSAND NEW CASES ARE EXPECTED IN BRAZIL IN 2024, SAYS INCA

In 2024, the National Cancer Institute (Inca) predicts 11,540 new cases of leukemia in Brazil – 170 of them in Brasília. In the country, there were 6,738 deaths from the disease in 2020, which is equivalent to around 3 deaths for every hundred thousand Brazilians. [Read more.](#)

NATIONAL CONGRESS WILL BE LIT UP IN ORANGE AS PART OF AWARENESS AND FIGHT AGAINST LEUKEMIA

The National Congress will be illuminated in orange this Wednesday (21), as part of awareness raising and combating leukemia - cancer of blood-forming tissues, including the bone marrow. The disease requires an early diagnosis to ensure adequate treatment and increase the chances of recovery. [Read more.](#)

MINISTRY OF HEALTH PUBLISHES ORDINANCE ESTABLISHING THE TECHNICAL ADVISORY CHAMBER FOR RARE DISEASES

The Ministry of Health published, in the Official Gazette of the Union on Monday (19), the ordinance that establishes the Technical Advisory Chamber for Rare Diseases - CTA for Rare Diseases, of a technical, consultative and educational nature, with the purpose to contribute to the improvement and development of the National Policy for Comprehensive Care for People with Rare Diseases and the discussion of issues related directly or indirectly to rare diseases in the Unified Health System (SUS). [Read more.](#)

BRAZILIAN PHARMACEUTICAL INDUSTRY SHOULD GROW 30% BY 2027

According to consultancy Redirection International, the pharmaceutical industry should experience four intense and positive years until the end of 2027, highlighted an article on the Panorama Farmacêutico portal. Forecasts point to an increase of up to 30% for the sector. Breaking down this growth annually, the average would be 8% per year. "Brazil is among the ten largest pharmaceutical markets in the world and almost 7% of the consumption of goods by Brazilian families is made up of pharmaceutical products", explains the company's partner and economist, Gabriel Cardoso. Cardoso goes even further, and states that the pharmaceutical sector in Brazil has the potential to grow above the rate predicted for the entire world. [Read more.](#)

GENERIC MEDICINES SAVE R\$281 BILLION FOR CONSUMERS

In the Brazilian pharmaceutical market, generics have stood out as a more affordable option compared to pioneering medicines. This difference in cost has been fundamental in promoting greater accessibility to drug treatments. According to Tiago de Moraes Vicente, executive

president of the Brazilian Association of Generic and Biosimilar Medicines Industries (PróGenéricos), this initiative originated in Bill number 2,022, of 1991, presented in the House of Representatives. Generic drugs in Brazil currently cost at least 35% less than their brand-name counterparts, providing a more affordable option for patients. In practice, the average discount is 67%. According to PróGenéricos, in total, they have saved Brazilians R\$281 billion over the last two decades and have played a crucial role in reducing Brazilian government spending on public health and medical assistance programs, allowing resources to be allocated to other priority areas. [Read more.](#)

OTHER HIGHLIGHTS

[House of Representatives passes mandatory publication of waiting lists for surgeries and other procedures in the SUS](#)

[SCMED holds workshop on Medicine Price Information Dossier](#)

[Defined the rapporteur for the bill about transparency of clinical trials for cancer](#)

[Appointed rapporteur for bill establishing awareness campaign about the newborn screening](#)

[Parliamentary Front for Rare Diseases will be reinstalled next Wednesday \(28\)](#)

BRAZIL NEWS

[Blinken tells Lula that US disagrees with his Israel remarks](#)

[Israel's statements on Brazil's Lula are unacceptable, says Foreign Minister Vieira](#)

[Crisis with Israel escalates, affects Brazil's domestic politics](#)

[Analysis: Lula has more to lose than Netanyahu](#)

[Brazil's Lula says Navalny's death should be probed before accusations](#)

[G20 Rio opens with war criticism; member countries target Russia](#)

[Government, Parliament agree to maintain payroll relief](#)

[Brazil extends tax clampdown to exclusive pension funds](#)

[Market still sees room for lower inflation, interest rates](#)

[Brazil surpasses 2.5m stores; reduced pace is wake-up call for 2024](#)

[Brazil's Lula says Hyundai to invest \\$1.1 billion in Brazil](#)

[ANEEL chief: Expensive power exacerbated Brazil's deindustrialization](#)

[Crop failure, grain prices drop affect land leasing](#)

[Airline group discusses high costs with Brazil officials](#)