

WEEKLY REPORT

06/08/2024



PHARMACEUTICAL INDUSTRY WANTS MORE DRUGS ON THE LIST WITH REDUCED VAT

This Friday, the 7th, the pharmaceutical industry reinforced its request to expand the list of drugs that will have reduced tax rates in the tax reform. "The sector wants to expand the right of Brazilians to have more quality and cheaper medicines", claimed Reginaldo Arcuri, president of FarmaBrasil, an association that brings together the main companies in the country's pharmaceutical industry. He participated this Friday afternoon in a panel, in a forum promoted by Esfera in Guarujá, on the coast of São Paulo, where Reginaldo Lopes (PT-MG) and Augusto Coutinho (Republicanos-PE), representatives who are part of the working group analyzing the tax reform regulation proposal, were also present. [Read more.](#)

TECHNOLOGIES FOR TREATING PROSTATE CANCER ARE BEING EVALUATED AT CONITEC

Four technologies are being evaluated by the National Commission for the Incorporation of Technologies into the Unified Health System (Conitec) for the treatment of patients with prostate cancer in the SUS. The initial assessment of the drugs abiraterone, apalutamide, darolutamide and enzalutamide considered the following indications: individuals with metastatic castration-sensitive prostate cancer (mCPSC), individuals with non-metastatic and metastatic castration-resistant prostate cancer (CRPC) and treatment-naïve; individuals with metastatic CRPC and previous use of chemotherapy. The topic was forwarded to the public consultation (PC) with a favorable opinion for the incorporation of the drug abiraterone (alone or associated with another drug - docetaxel) for the treatment of patients with CPSCm, due to the clinical benefits presented and also favorable for the incorporation of abiraterone for the treatment of individuals with metastatic and treatment-naïve CRPC. Those interested in participating in CP have until June 12th to send contributions. Prostate cancer is the second most prevalent cancer among men in the country, behind only non-melanoma skin cancer. [Read more.](#)

HEALTH INSURANCE PLANS WANT CONSORTIUM TO MAKE MEDICINE PURCHASES CHEAPER

The agreement for health plans to suspend unilateral cancellations of certain contracts, announced last week by the president of the Chamber, Arthur Lira (PP-AL), was conditioned on some terms that will be in the new law that regulates the sector. These include limited coverage of procedures - without hospitalizations - and the formation of consortia to purchase high-cost medicines. The medicine for cystic fibrosis, for example, costs R\$92,000. Drug therapy has just arrived at the Unified Health System (SUS). The formation of consortia between the public health system and private hospitals allows for gains in scale, lowering the price of purchased medicines. [Read more.](#)

AT AN ANS MEETING, DIRECTORS APPROVE A LIMIT OF 6.91% FOR THE ANNUAL ADJUSTMENT OF INDIVIDUAL AND FAMILY HEALTH PLANS

The National Supplementary Health Agency (ANS) held this Tuesday (4), the 5th Extraordinary Meeting of the Collegiate Board of Directors (DICOL) of 2024. On that occasion, the limit of 6.91% was defined for the annual readjustment of health plans. individual and family health services contracted from January 1, 1999 or adapted to Law No. 9,656/98. The percentage is the ceiling valid for the period between May 2024 and April 2025. [Read more.](#)

ANS DIRECTOR SAYS HE IS STUDYING CHANGES TO COLLECTIVE READJUSTMENT RULES

The regulator's director of Standards and Product Qualification, Alexandre Fioranelli, says that the agency has been studying changes to the rules to increase collective plans. These contracts represent more than 80% of the market and this year will again see a double-digit increase. However, there is no intention to equate regulation to that of individual plans, he says without giving more information about what lies ahead. According to Fioranelli, the main challenge today is to encourage operators to review the health management model. Faced with frequent complaints from companies in the sector that the accounts do not close with the adjustment percentage established by the agency, Fioranelli states that the calculations are made based on data from the operators themselves and "that investing in prevention is the best way, as it avoids emergence or worsening of diseases, reduces costs and contributes to the sustainability of the sector". [Read more](#).

POLITICAL PARTY REQUESTS SUPREME COURT TO PREVENT PLANS FROM ACCESSING GENETIC DATA FROM POTENTIAL POLICYHOLDERS

The Democratic Labor Party (PDT) filed a Claim of Non-Compliance with Fundamental Precepts (ADPF) in the Federal Supreme Court (STF) to prevent health operators from accessing genetic data from potential insured persons to investigate pre-existing illnesses, a loophole that, according to the party, was opened by Precedent 609 of the Superior Court of Justice (STJ). ADPF 1,175 was filed last Tuesday (4/6) and will be reported by Minister Dias Toffoli. Specifically, the party asks that "the violation of the fundamental precepts mentioned be recognized and a declaration of unconstitutionality be given without reducing the text of Precedent No. 609 of the STJ, to exclude the possibility of requests, by insurance companies and health plan operators, for information that concerns the genetic heritage of individuals, thus preventing such data from defining the hiring or pricing of contracts". [Read more](#).

DELAY IN EXPANDING THE HEEL PRICK TEST IN THE SUS MAKES IT DIFFICULT TO DIAGNOSE RARE DISEASE

On May 26, 2021, the then President of the Republic, Jair Bolsonaro (PL), sanctioned Law No. 14,154, which expanded the list of pathologies detectable through the heel prick test in the SUS. In force a year later, the legislation extended the number of identified diseases to 50, but proposed expansion in five stages. Bolsonaro gave states five years to expand the exam. Present in the last stage, AME is not yet tracked, except in a few places, such as the Federal District and Minas Gerais. [Read more](#).

MORE HIGHLIGHTS

[Anvisa changes the rule that deals with the post-registration of biological products](#)

[Public hearing may debate the accreditation, financing, operation, and evaluation of reference centers for rare diseases](#)

[Favorable opinion presented for the bill that establishes criteria for setting prices for gene therapies](#)

[Favorable opinion presented for the bill that encourages donations to purchase high-cost medicines not available in the SUS](#)

[Presented new version for the bill that creates the National Bank to Combat Cancer](#)

BRAZIL NEWS

[Brazil central bank aligned over concern about market inflation expectations](#)

[Resistance to new Brazil tax credit rules will dissipate, minister says](#)

[Tax on international purchases reduces burden on goods over \\$50](#)

[Brazil's economy forecast to have picked up pace in first quarter](#)

[Brazil economy rebounds to start year, but flood impacts unclear](#)

[Minister of Environment foresees 'terrible drought' in the Amazon](#)

[China's SPIC invests \\$147 million in Brazil wind farms, launches solar parks](#)



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