

# WEEKLY REPORT

11/02/2024



## **PROJECTION POINTS TO GROWTH IN MORTALITY FROM MALE CANCERS**

Regarding cancers that are exclusively male – prostate, penis, and testicles – the outlook for 2022 to 2030 is for an increase in the mortality rate on all continents of the world. This is what is revealed by the survey carried out by the Institute of Urology, Oncology and Robotic Surgery (IUCR) in the Cancer Tomorrow database, a platform of the International Agency for Research on Cancer of the World Health Organization (IARC/WHO). Brazil, in turn, follows the global scenario, according to the following data: Prostate cancer - Number of deaths in 2022: 19,558 - Number of deaths in 2030: 24,015 - Increase of 20.3%; Penis cancer - Number of deaths in 2022: 547 - Number of deaths in 2030: 651 - Increase of 19%; and Testicle cancer - Number of deaths in 2022: 459 - - Number of deaths in 2030: 475 - Increase of 3,5%. [Read more.](#)

## **PHARMACEUTICAL COMPANIES WANT ANVISA'S DRUG DIRECTORATE**

National pharmaceutical laboratories are mobilizing in Congress to try to place the current director of Anvisa Daniel Fernandes Pereira in the directorate of medicines. Today he heads another division of the health surveillance agency. The movement by businesspeople together with senators precedes the exchange of seats that will occur on the agency's board in December, when three seats will be free with the expiration of their terms. [Read more.](#)

## **OZEMPIC PATENT EXPIRES IN 2026 AND THE LOSS OF EXCLUSIVITY IS ALREADY MOBILIZING BRAZILIAN PHARMACEUTICAL COMPANIES**

Major national laboratories have begun studies to produce generic versions of diabetes medication, which gained worldwide fame for its off-label use for weight loss and generates revenues of over R\$3 billion in the country, according to IQVIA. Novo Nordisk also tried to extend patent protection until 2029, using article 40 of the Industrial Property Law (LPI). However, the declaration of unconstitutionality of this rule by the STF, imposing a time limit of 20 years from the date the analysis request was filed with the National Institute of Industrial Property, opened the eyes of the competition. "The company suffered a reduction of approximately three and a half years in the actual time of use due to the STF decision, which also affected other pharmaceutical patents. As a result, the actual period of enjoyment of the patent was limited to a period of less than seven years", highlighted the laboratory, in response to a special report by Veja Negócios. [Read more.](#)

## **BRAZILIAN PHARMACEUTICAL INDUSTRY CRITICIZES LACK OF INCENTIVES FOR INNOVATION**

Representatives of the pharmaceutical industry discussed competitiveness and criticized the lack of incentives for innovation in the sector. The discussion was part of the Competitive Brazil Seminar – National Pharmaceutical Industry, held at the Chamber of Deputies on Tuesday, the 29th. The information is from Agência Câmara. The conclusion is that there is an urgent need to implement long-term public policies so that the country can, for example, increase the production of active pharmaceutical ingredients (API). Today, the country produces only 5% of API, which is the main component to produce drugs. [Read more.](#)

## **NATIONAL PHARMACEUTICAL COMPANY CRISTÁLIA MAKES ACQUISITION TO 'RESURRECT' MEDICINE DISCONTINUED BY SANOFI**

Cristália is acquiring a brand of medicines discontinued two years ago by Sanofi. It is Convivance, whose formula is composed of diosmin and hesperidin, a medicine for treating

conditions such as chronic venous insufficiency. The acquisition will allow Cristália to enter the vasoprotective segment. Recently, the national laboratory entered the contraceptive niche with another acquisition: it acquired the medicines Diva and Diva 20, contraceptives manufactured by Exeltis, a branch of the Spanish group Insud. [Read more](#).

### **REPRESENTATIVE SPONSORS BILL ON CRITERIA FOR THE PROVISION OF MEDICINES NOT INCORPORATED INTO THE SUS**

Representative Juninho do Pneu (UNIÃO-RJ) sponsored Bill 4202/2024, which deals with the judicial concession of medicines not incorporated into the Unified Health System (SUS) in specific and urgent cases, aiming to guarantee the right to health and access to treatments essential to the preservation of the life and integrity of the person. The bill establishes criteria for concession, such as the need for a medical report proving the indispensability of the medicine for the health or life of the patient and the absence of therapeutic alternatives in the SUS with the same efficacy. It also requires that the medicine be registered with the National Health Surveillance Agency (Anvisa) or an equivalent international agency, proving safety and efficacy, in addition to demonstrating that the patient does not have the resources to pay for the treatment. [Read more](#).

### **CONGRESSMAN SPONSORS BILL TO ESTABLISH NEW DEADLINE FOR REVIEWING DRUG PRICES**

Congressman Bruno Ganem (PODE-SP) sponsored Bill 4191/2024, proposing changes to the regulations that define the rules for the pharmaceutical sector and create the Chamber for Regulating the Drug Market (CMED). The congressman suggests that drug prices be reviewed every five years, in order to align the prices set by CMED with the values actually practiced in the pharmaceutical market, maintaining a closer parity between the table and the market reality. Currently, drug prices are reviewed annually. [Read more](#).

### **AMENDMENT TO BILL ON CARE FOR RARE DISEASES IS APPROVED**

The Committee for the Defense of the Rights of Persons with Disabilities (CPD) approved the amendment proposed by Congressman Daniel Agrobom (PL-GO) to Bill 4691/2019, which amends the Organic Health Law to provide for care for rare diseases and other measures. The bill proposed by Senator Leila Barros (PDT-DF), currently being processed together with 30 other similar bills, had its proposals incorporated into the approved amendment. The text establishes that, among the principles of public health actions and services, as well as contracted or agreed private services that are part of the SUS, there will be actions aimed at promoting, protecting and recovering the mental health, both individual and collective, of people with rare diseases and their caregivers. The proposal also assigns the national management of SUS the responsibility of formulating, financing, evaluating, and participating in the execution of public health actions and services aimed at assisting these people. In the absence of a clinical protocol or therapeutic guideline, the text provides that the dispensing of medications for rare diseases will be carried out based on the recommendations of medical associations of specialists in the disease or health problem for which the medication was prescribed, regardless of the list of medications of the federated entity, as long as the medication is not considered experimental by the Federal Council of Medicine. The text also specifies that, in the evaluation for incorporation of medications intended for the treatment of rare diseases, the cost-effectiveness analysis will be waived when there is no other medication for comparison available in the same situation. [Read more](#).

### **MINISTRY OF HEALTH WORKS ON FOUR ORDINANCES TO REGULATE THE NATIONAL POLICY FOR CANCER PREVENTION AND CONTROL**

The general coordinator of the National Policy for Cancer Prevention and Control of the Ministry of Health, José Barreto Campello Carvalheira, stated this Thursday (10/31) that a Clinical Protocol and Therapeutic Guidelines (PCDT) for cervical cancer should be presented at the next meeting of the National Commission for the Incorporation of Technologies into the Unified Health System (Conitec). The next round of meetings is scheduled for next week, on

Wednesday (11/6), Thursday (11/7) and Friday (11/8). Furthermore, according to the coordinator, the department is preparing four new ordinances to regulate the National Policy for Cancer Prevention and Control. The ordinances involve the inclusion of pharmaceutical assistance in the care provided to cancer patients, the standardization and processing of medical record data, as well as the patient navigation program through the system, also including aspects of monitoring and surveillance of the various types of cancer. [Read more.](#)

### **DEBATERS ADVOCATE FOR MORE BUDGET TO FIGHT CANCER**

During a debate in the Chamber of Deputies' Health Committee on the regulation of the National Cancer Prevention and Control Policy, participants highlighted the importance of increasing public funding for the treatment of the disease. The experts interviewed also highlighted the need to strengthen primary health care, which is responsible for initial diagnosis and prevention actions. According to Hérica Rodrigues, representative of the Lado a Lado Institute, research conducted by the institution showed that oncology receives only 1.17% of the federal budget allocated to health. The data is from 2023, when the government invested R\$4.75 billion in cancer treatment, according to the researcher. The federal budget for the Unified Health System (SUS) was R\$194.2 billion. According to Hérica Rodrigues, the reallocation of resources would make it possible to increase funding for the oncology area to R\$13 billion annually, an increase of 197%. [Read more.](#)

### **ANVISA APPROVES NEW WARNINGS FOR CIGARETTE PACKAGING**

The National Health Surveillance Agency (Anvisa) has approved new models of health warning graphics to be used on the packaging of tobacco-derived smoking products. The decision was announced at the agency's 21st Board Meeting (Dicol), held on Wednesday morning (10/30). The new messages are the fifth group of images and health warnings that must be included on smoking products since the enactment of Law 9294/1996, which sets out restrictions on cigarette advertising. The new layout, which was subject to public consultation and hearing before being approved, has undergone changes to its colors and icons, in addition to the inclusion of a QR Code, used as an alternative for accessing information by people with some type of disability. [Read more.](#)

### **COMPLAINTS AGAINST HEALTH PLANS ALMOST QUADRUPLE IN FIVE YEARS**

On the 7th, ANS (National Supplementary Health Agency) opened a public consultation to discuss different topics involving health plans, from reviewing the rules to encourage the sale of exclusively outpatient options, without the right to hospitalization, to reviewing adjustment criteria for individual and family plans to allow operators to make exceptional adjustments. The discussion takes place amid a crisis in healthcare services. Between 2018 and 2023, complaints against the sector jumped 263%, from 97,336 to 353,784, according to a survey conducted by the agency at the request of Folha. [Read more.](#)

### **ANS UNABLE TO MAINTAIN ECONOMIC BALANCE OF HEALTH PLANS, SAYS MPF**

The MPF (Federal Public Ministry) says it considers the actions of the ANS (National Supplementary Health Agency) to be insufficient to guarantee economic balance between consumers and health plan operators. In a document dated October 21, the MPF points out that this imbalance would be one of the reasons for the abusive adjustments of medical plans — putting the consumer in a vulnerable position— and also makes a series of recommendations to the agency. [Read more.](#)

### **G20 HEALTH APPROVES COALITION TO PRODUCE VACCINES AGAINST NEGLECTED DISEASES**

The G20 health ministers' meeting this week resulted in a declaration of support for a coalition focused on local and regional production of vaccines, diagnostics, and innovative approaches to treating neglected diseases. Two declarations were approved this Thursday (31): one focusing on the intersection between climate change and health, and another of a general

nature, which addresses topics such as the global coalition, the appreciation of health professionals, the fight against long Covid and the promotion of digital health. [Read more.](#)

### **INJECTABLE VACCINE REPLACES 'DROPLET' AGAINST POLIO ACROSS THE COUNTRY**

Starting November 4, Brazil will implement an important change in its strategy to combat polio, replacing booster doses with the oral polio vaccine (OPV) — the famous “drop” — with the inactivated polio vaccine (IPV), administered by injection. According to the Ministry of Health, the change is in line with a global trend of using VIP, composed of virus particles, to the detriment of the oral version, produced with the attenuated virus. [Read more.](#)

#### **MORE HIGHLIGHTS**

[Minister of Health will attend public hearing about cuts on the Health budget](#)

[Public hearing will discuss prostate cancer in Minas Gerais](#)

[Public hearing will debate tax reform and its impacts on health](#)

[Public Hearing to discuss evidence-based medicine and the judicialization of health in Brazil](#)

[Subcommittee will hold a seminar on autism spectrum disorder and Rare Diseases and other neurodiversities](#)

#### **BRAZIL NEWS**

[City elections show Brazil shifted right but not far-right](#)

[Brazil's military to reinforce Rio security during G20 summit, security official says](#)

[Brazil surprised by Venezuela's 'offensive tone' as diplomatic row escalates](#)

[Venezuela recalls Brazil envoy over 'interventionist' criticisms](#)

[UN COP16 nature talks unlikely to reach deal on conservation funding](#)

[Brazil farmers, government slam Danone for cutting out Brazilian soy](#)

[Brazil Finance minister cancels trip to Europe amid pressure to present fiscal measures](#)

[Brazilian ministers pledge measures to strengthen fiscal framework](#)

[Brazil's strong labor market fuels inflation fears ahead of expected rate hike](#)

[Brazil institute sues social media giants for \\$525 mln over usage by minors](#)

[Brazil crypto imports surge 60.7% through September, exceeding 2023 total](#)