

WEEKLY REPORT

11/16/2024



MINISTER NÍSIA TRINDADE FACES DEMANDS FROM LULA FOR 'NEW BRAND' AND DISSATISFACTION FROM GOVERNMENT EMPLOYEES

With one of the largest budgets in the Esplanade of Ministries, Health Minister Nísia Trindade has been balancing the pressure to deliver results in the department and the dissatisfaction of health workers. She has been urged by President Luiz Inácio Lula da Silva to move forward with a program that has become the PT's hope to make a mark in the area during his current term. On the other hand, she is facing criticism from workers who are calling for her to step down from her position after changes to the federal hospital network in Rio de Janeiro. Launched in April, the More Access to Specialists Program (PMAE), which aims to expand the supply of consultations, exams and surgeries in the public health system, has become one of the government's priorities. Seven months after the announcement, however, it has not yet been implemented nationwide. [Read more.](#)

GOVERNMENT IS COMMITTED TO THE SUS, SAYS MINISTER WHEN ASKED ABOUT POSSIBLE CUTS IN HEALTHCARE

Health Minister Nísia Trindade said this Wednesday (13), during a debate in the House of Representatives, that it will be up to President Luiz Inácio Lula da Silva to decide on possible budget cuts next year. "President Lula is fully committed to social programs, as he himself said, and to the needs of the Unified Health System (SUS)," assured Nísia Trindade. "The government works with a vision of priority and responsibility." [Read more.](#)

PUBLIC HEARING SCHEDULED TO DISCUSS THE SITUATION OF REGULATORY AGENCIES

The Economic Development Committee has scheduled a public hearing to discuss the situation of Regulatory Agencies for November 28, at 10 am. The event was requested by Congressman Julio Lopes (PP-RJ). According to the author, the public hearing will discuss the situation of employees of Regulatory Agencies, the risks to economic regulation in Brazil, tax collection, surplus of own funds and the best use of the resources collected to ensure efficient regulation through investments in personnel. He also argued that this is an extremely important moment to ensure transparency, efficiency and the correct application of the resources collected. [Read more.](#)

REPRESENTATIVE SPONSORS BILL THAT ESTABLISHES THE HOUSE TO REVIEW ACTIONS FROM REGULATORY AGENCIES

Representative Danilo Forte (União-CE) filed Proposed Amendment to the Constitution 42/2024, which adds section VI to art. 51 of the Federal Constitution, to establish exclusive jurisdiction for the House of Representatives regarding the oversight of the activities of regulatory agencies. According to the proposal, the committees of the House may establish deadlines for the agencies to adopt the necessary measures to comply with the law. In addition, if intentional unlawful conduct is identified, whether by action or omission, such conduct must be forwarded to the Public Prosecutor's Office, the Attorney General's Office and the Federal Court of Auditors, so that the appropriate actions can be taken regarding the administrative, civil or criminal liability of the offenders. [Read more.](#)

LOWER TAXATION ON PRIVATE HEALTHCARE EASES THE BURDEN ON THE GOVERNMENT, SAY DEBATERS AT THE SENATE'S CCJ

Representatives from the health and supplementary pension sector point out that private and non-profit initiatives relieve public spending on health to justify increasing or maintaining favored treatment in tax reform. The requests were made at a public hearing at the Constitution and Justice Committee (CCJ), held this Tuesday (12). The meeting, chaired by Senator Augusta Brito (PT-CE), was the fourth of 11 scheduled in the CCJ to analyze the complementary bill (PLP) 68/2024, which regulates the transformation of five taxes (ICMS, ISS, IPI, PIS and Cofins) into two: a value added tax (VAT) on consumption, divided between the federal and state/municipal levels; and the Selective Tax. The text is reported by Senator Eduardo Braga (MDB-AM). [Read more.](#)

CAMEX ELIMINATES IMPORT TAX ON CANCER DRUGS

The Executive Management Committee of the Foreign Trade Chamber (Gecex-Camex) has eliminated import taxes on 13 products. Among the items benefiting from exemption are medications used in the treatment of prostate cancer and other types of cancer. Other products with zero tariffs include inputs used in the production of medical gloves, wind turbine blades, tires and agricultural pesticides, hydrogel contact lenses and films for X-rays. The import tax, which ranged from 3.6% to 18%, was eliminated. According to the Ministry of Development, Industry, Commerce and Services (MDIC), tariffs for these products were reduced to zero to meet domestic demand for products with little national production. [Read more.](#)

INCA WILL EXPAND ITS ROLE AS A FORMULATOR OF STUDIES ON TECHNOLOGICAL ASSESSMENTS IN ONCOLOGY

The Health Technology Assessment (HTA) project at the National Cancer Institute (INCA) aims to integrate prevention and surveillance, care, teaching and research through studies that help managers make decisions about new incorporations and that assess the effectiveness of technologies used in clinical practice. The work also includes economic analyses that support the effective allocation of resources. INCA is now carrying out this technology assessment work in the area of oncology. "The project design includes the decentralization of HTA knowledge within the institution, which is essential for the areas to have information about the initiative. The next step, when the demand flow is expected to be established, will be the definition of priority topics. Finally, the results from the completion of all the steps will be disclosed," explains the head of the Health Technology Assessment Division (Dats), Laura Barufaldi. [Read more.](#)

3 IN 10 MEN HAVE NEVER HAD A RECTAL EXAM AND DO NOT INTEND TO HAVE ONE, SAYS SURVEY

Three out of ten men have never had a digital rectal exam, nor do they intend to have one, according to a study by the AACamargo Cancer Center hospital in partnership with Nexus. The same study also indicates that 44% of those interviewed have no knowledge about prostate cancer prevention. According to the SBU (Brazilian Society of Urology), last year the disease killed an average of 47 men per day in Brazil. A physical exam is one way to find out whether or not a patient has prostate cancer. [Read more.](#)

PROSTATE CANCER KILLS 47 MEN PER DAY IN BRAZIL

The Ministry of Health reported 17,093 deaths from prostate cancer in Brazil in 2023, which corresponds to 47 deaths per day, according to a survey by the SBU (Brazilian Society of Urology). The disease, however, has a high chance of being cured if discovered and treated early. The tumor is the second most common among men, behind only skin cancer. Estimates from INCA (National Cancer Institute) indicate 71,730 new cases of the disease per year in the 2023-2025 triennium, with an average of 196 per day. [Read more.](#)

COMMITTEE PASSES BILL THAT AIMS TO ESTABLISH THE COMPREHENSIVE MEN'S HEALTH CARE POLICY AND THE BLUE NOVEMBER CAMPAIGN

In a deliberative meeting of the Finance and Taxation Committee (CFT) of the Chamber of Deputies held this Wednesday (13), Bill 6568/2023 was approved, which aims to establish the

Comprehensive Men's Health Care Policy and the Blue November campaign. Originating from the Federal Senate, the text is being processed in the form of a substitute bill because it is attached to 13 other bills that deal with related topics. Thus, the PL proposes the creation of the policy with the objective of covering the early detection, diagnosis and treatment of diseases and health problems that exclusively or predominantly affect the male population, giving broad dissemination to the population. [Read more](#).

BAN ON 'BEAUTY CHIPS' TO BE DEBATED IN THE SENATE SESSION

The recent ban imposed by the National Health Surveillance Agency (Anvisa) on manipulated hormonal implants, known as "beauty chips", will be the subject of debate in a session scheduled for November 22, at 2 pm, in the Senate Plenary. The request (RQS 721/2024) for the thematic session was requested by Jorge Seif (PL-SC) and 26 other senators. The decision by Anvisa, announced on October 18, suspends the manipulation, sale, advertising and use of manipulated hormonal implants. The measure, which is preventive in nature, was adopted following complaints filed by medical organizations, including the Brazilian Federation of Gynecology and Obstetrics Associations (Febrasgo), which pointed out an increase in the number of patients seeking treatment for problems caused by this type of device. According to Anvisa, many of these devices include substances that have not been assessed for safety in this form of use. [Read more](#).

SUBCOMMITTEE ON RARE DISEASES DEBATES THE REGULATION OF ACCESS BY PEOPLE WITH RARE DISEASES TO MEDICINES AND MEDICAL DEVICES IN THE SUS

In a public hearing held this Tuesday (12), the Permanent Subcommittee on Rare Diseases of the Federal Senate discussed the regulation of access by people with rare diseases to medicines and medical devices in the SUS. The debate was requested by senators Mara Gabrielli (PSD-DP) and Damares Alves (Republicanos-DF). Initially, senator Damares Alves (Republicanos-DF), vice-president of the Subcommittee, expressed her satisfaction with the increased participation of the population in debates like this, mentioning that rare diseases affect many families in Brazil. According to the parliamentarian, the topic is highly complex and requires understanding and collaboration from everyone, highlighting the importance of working together. She also emphasized the need for management based on governance, integrity, efficiency and transparency. Senator and Subcommittee Chairwoman Mara Gabrielli (PSD-SP) expressed her gratitude for holding the debate and for the growing interest in the topic. She stressed the importance of ensuring that the rights of people with rare diseases are respected and recognized and drew attention to the need for these advances to be maintained. She also highlighted that more than 80% of the Brazilian population depends exclusively on the SUS for access to healthcare, which makes it essential to assess the current scenario of incorporating new technologies and medications into the system. She also highlighted the importance of advancing Clinical Protocols and Therapeutic Guidelines (PCDTs). Finally, the senator recalled Ordinance No. 199, of January 30, 2014, of the Ministry of Health, which institutes the National Policy for Comprehensive Care for People with Rare Diseases. [Read more](#).

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