

WEEKLY REPORT

12/28/2024



MINISTER OF HEALTH GOES THROUGH 2024 UNDER CRISES, CRITICISM FROM LULA AND PRESSURE FROM THE CENTRISTS

The management of the Minister of Health, Nísia Trindade, in 2024, was marked by criticism from President Lula himself (PT), in addition to pressure from the center parties to increase control over the department's budget. The minister also faced the explosion of dengue cases and the lack of some models of medicines and vaccines across the country, such as doses in the children's calendar and against Covid. For government members and SUS (Unified Health System) managers who monitor the ministry's actions, the series of crises has made Nísia more vulnerable in the event of a ministerial reform, even though there are no solid indications that she will be replaced. [Read more.](#)

ANTÔNIO BARRA TORRES LEAVES ANVISA AND MOVES TO THE PRIVATE SECTOR

After a five-year term, Antônio Barra Torres has left his position as CEO of Anvisa. After receiving a proposal from the market, the executive decided to move to the private sector. The information is from Metrôpoles newspaper. The move took place last Saturday, the 21st, but it may take some time to materialize. This is because, despite no longer occupying the position, the former CEO will undergo a six-month quarantine before being able to assume his new position. [Read more.](#)

NEW LAW EXEMPTS MEDICINES FROM IMPORT TAX

President Lula signed Law 15,071/2024, which guarantees exemption from import tax on personal medicines worth up to US\$10,000. The law also includes, in the Green Mobility and Innovation Program (MOVER), different rules for the import of auto parts and vehicles. There were two vetoes: the first concerns the section that provided for the composition of the board of directors of the National Fund for Industrial and Technological Development; the second refers to the transfer of tax liability from the taxpayer to the e-commerce company in the event of non-return of the product abroad. It will be up to the National Congress to decide whether to maintain or overturn these vetoes. [Read more.](#)

LAW CREATING NATIONAL CARE POLICY APPROVED

Law 15.069/24, which establishes the National Care Policy, was published this Tuesday (24). The objective is to guarantee the right to care, both for those who receive it and for those who provide care. The new law originated in Bill 5791/19, by deputy on leave Leandre (PR), approved by the Chamber of Deputies and the Federal Senate and sanctioned without vetoes by the President of the Republic, Luiz Inácio Lula da Silva. The rapporteur in the Chamber was deputy Benedita da Silva (PT-RJ), who presented a substitute incorporating the Executive Branch's project on the same topic (PL 2762/24). The government proposal is the result of an interministerial working group (GTI-Care) that included the participation of representatives from more than 17 ministries, as well as members of states, municipalities and academics. [Read more.](#)

ANS DEFINES NEW RULES FOR SERVING HEALTH PLAN BENEFICIARIES

The National Supplementary Health Agency (ANS) published Normative Resolution 623 in the Official Gazette of the Union (DOU), which introduces new rules to be observed by operators and benefit administrators when receiving requests from beneficiaries, whether they are of a welfare or non-welfare nature, in any type of contract. The regulation establishes guidelines for

service, such as transparency, clarity and security of information, traceability of demands and courtesy in the relationship with the consumer. The growth in complaints to the ANS has been monitored over time using indicators, and up until now there have been no regulatory/supervisory consequences with this focus. The regulation aims to change this reality by creating repercussions and effects for those operators that do not meet certain targets for complaints. Those that take the responsive initiative to adjust their workflows will receive incentives, including within a short-term window of opportunity. The new resolution will come into full effect from 1/7/2025, but some of its provisions will already come into effect upon publication in the DOU, so that time can be provided for the engagement of operators in the transitional phase of the standard in favor of reducing complaints. [Read more.](#)

OROPOUCHE FEVER REACHED 22 STATES AND SURPASSED 11 THOUSAND CASES IN 2024, SAYS MINISTRY OF HEALTH

Oropouche fever has spread beyond the Amazon region, reaching 22 states and surpassing 11 thousand cases until epidemiological week 50, between December 8 and 14 of this year, according to a technical note from the Ministry of Health. Only Rio Grande do Norte, Goiás, Distrito Federal, Paraná and Rio Grande do Sul did not register local (autochthonous) transmission. Since 2023, the country has faced a significant increase in the detection of cases of disease. The disease is caused by an arbovirus (virus transmitted by mosquitoes) called Orthobunyavirus oropoucheense (OROV). Transmitted to humans mainly by the bite of *Culicoides paraensis*, known as the sandfly or sandfly, this virus was detected in Brazil in the 1960s, from a blood sample taken from a sloth captured during the construction of the Belém-Brasília highway. [Read more.](#)

MORE HIGHLIGHTS

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[ANS and ANPD sign agreement to improve data protection in supplementary health](#)

[Ministries may provide information on a proposal suggesting that Brazil become a co-sponsor of the resolution on rare diseases](#)

BRAZIL NEWS

[Brazil's real likely to stay under pressure in 2025](#)

[Brazil's risk premium tops 200 points, reaches highest since May 2023](#)

[Brazil mid-December inflation slows but ends year above target](#)

[Brazil's jobless rate hits fresh all-time low but job creation slows](#)

[Brazil posts \\$3.1 billion current account deficit in November](#)

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