

# WEEKLY REPORT

03/29/2025



## **BRAZILIAN WOMEN ARE AMONG THE ONES WHO SUFFER THE MOST FROM THE NEGATIVE IMPACTS OF MENOPAUSE, GLOBAL STUDY SHOWS**

Brazilian women are among the women who suffer the most from the negative impacts of menopause. According to the survey Experience and Attitudes in Menopause, conducted by the pharmaceutical company Astellas in six countries, 8 out of 10 Brazilian women experienced negative psychological feelings due to menopause, including anxiety (58%), depression (26%), embarrassment (20%) and shame (16%). Compared to global figures, Brazilian women seem to suffer more from these symptoms. Menopause marks the end of reproductive life, determined after 12 months of absence of menstruation. Among Brazilian women, the average age for its onset is 48 years old and it occurs in two phases: perimenopause, when symptoms begin to appear, and postmenopause. [Read more.](#)

## **WOMEN IN CLIMACTERIC AND MENOPAUSE WILL HAVE SPECIALIZED CARE IN THE RIO DE JANEIRO HEALTH NETWORK**

On Tuesday (25), the Plenary of the Legislative Assembly of Rio de Janeiro passed Bill 3121/2024, sponsored by Marina do MST (PT), which establishes specialized care for women in the climacteric or menopause phase in health centers and public hospitals administered by the state. The bill determines that health units must train doctors in the diagnosis and treatment of climacteric and menopause; offer specialized psychological and multidisciplinary monitoring for women; and provide continuous and individualized treatment. [Read more.](#)

## **WOMEN AGED 40 AND OVER WILL HAVE BREAST CANCER SCREENING IN HEALTH PLANS, DECIDES ANS**

The National Supplementary Health Agency (ANS) accepted the recommendation of medical entities and included, on Monday, that mammogram exams be recommended for women from the age of 40, and no longer just from the age of 50, in its Good Practices Manual. This is the first time that the ANS has created a guideline regarding the age range for screening, although all women can have a mammogram with a doctor's request. Even so, until now, many health plans refused to allow women under 50 years of age to undergo mammograms. The guideline updates the recommendation in line with what is recommended by doctors. [Read more.](#)

## **DISCOUNT CARD SHOULD BE OUT OF REACH OF ANS, SAYS INDUSTRY GIANT**

Discount card companies should be left out of the discussions of the National Health Agency (ANS), which will close its public consultation on the topic next week, according to Aquiles Vilar, vice president of Cartão de Todos, a leader in the sector. This is because this segment would be outside the legal scope of the agency, which regulates the supplementary health sector. "ANS is responsible for regulating the health plan market and not the health market as a whole," he says. [Read more.](#)

## **HEALTH INSURANCE PLANS RETAIN R\$5.8 BILLION FROM PRIVATE HOSPITALS**

In 2024, the country's leading hospitals had the largest amount of payments retained by health plans, totaling R\$5.8 billion. In the same year, the profits of health insurance companies increased fivefold, reaching R\$10.2 billion, the best performance since 2020, the first year of the Covid pandemic. An unprecedented survey by Anahp (National Association of Private Hospitals), with 85 institutions, shows that the amount retained represented 15.89% of the

total they should have received from health insurance companies, an increase of four percentage points compared to 2023. [Read more.](#)

### **EXPERTS POINT OUT LACK OF RESOURCES IN THE SUS TO INCORPORATE PRECISION MEDICINE IN THE FIGHT AGAINST CANCER**

Cancer treatment experts pointed out, this Wednesday (26), the lack of resources and infrastructure as the main challenges to incorporating advanced disease control technologies into the Unified Health System (SUS). They were heard by the Special Committee of the Chamber of Deputies on the fight against cancer in Brazil. The incorporation of precision medicine – when the doctor applies specific treatments for the patient's genetic profile and type of tumor – is provided for in the National Cancer Prevention Policy. [Read more.](#)

### **HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES APPROVES RULES FOR MONITORING PEOPLE WITH CANCER**

The Chamber of Deputies approved this Tuesday (25) a bill that details procedures for monitoring people diagnosed with cancer or undergoing treatment for the disease. The text will be sent to the Senate. Sponsored by former representative Tereza Nelma and others, Bill 4272/21 was approved in the form of a substitute by the rapporteur, representative Enfermeira Rejane (PCdoB-RJ). The changes will be made to Law 14,758/23, which created the National Navigation Program for People Diagnosed with Cancer. [Read more.](#)

### **INPI AND MDIC HOLD WEBINAR ON MONOCLONAL ANTIBODIES FOR THE TREATMENT OF BREAST CANCER**

On April 3, INPI and the Ministry of Development, Industry, Trade and Services (MDIC) will hold the webinar "Trastuzumab and Pertuzumab: monoclonal antibodies for the treatment of HER2+ breast cancer". The event will discuss the study prepared by INPI, within the scope of the Technical Group for Intelligence in Industrial Property (GTIPI), in partnership with the Institute of Applied Economic Research (IPEA). [Read more.](#)

### **ZOLGENSMA: MINISTRY SIGNS AGREEMENT FOR SUS TO HAVE ONE OF THE MOST EXPENSIVE MEDICINES IN THE WORLD**

The Unified Health System (SUS) will offer treatment with Zolgensma (onasemnogeno abeparvovek) for babies with spinal muscular atrophy (SMA) type 1. According to the Ministry of Health, the medicine, considered one of the most expensive in the world, may be indicated for patients up to 6 months of age who are not on invasive mechanical ventilation for more than 16 hours a day. The therapy was expected to be incorporated in 2023, as established in the ordinance of December 6, 2022. But only now, with an agreement between the ministry and Novartis, will it be made available. [Read more.](#)

### **IMPORTERS OF MEDICINAL CANNABIS JOIN FORCES AGAINST LOBBYING AT ANVISA**

Fifteen importers of cannabis -based medicines joined forces at the Connection and Regulation Institute (ICR) and presented Anvisa (National Health Surveillance Agency) with a proposal to prevent what they call market reservation for national manufacturers. Representatives of the association were at the agency to ensure that doctors continue to prescribe imported medicines to those who need them. [Read more.](#)

### **ANVISA TO HOLD PUBLIC CONSULTATION TO UPDATE REGULATIONS ON CANNABIS**

On Wednesday (26/3), Anvisa's Board of Directors approved the opening of a Public Consultation to review the current regulations for cannabis products. The draft resolution will be open for 60 days and, during this period, any interested party may make contributions to the proposal to update the regulations made by Anvisa. Currently, cannabis products in Brazil are regulated by RDC 327/2019, which defines the rules for products to be authorized in the country and sold in pharmaceutical retail. [Read more.](#)

## MORE HIGHLIGHTS

[Health Committee approves the creation of a Special Subcommittee focused on Cancer](#)

[Public hearing will debate the topic of evidence-based medicine in the context of the judicialization of health in Brazil](#)

[Appointed rapporteur for the bill that establishes criteria for the provision of medicines not incorporated into the SUS](#)

[Congresswoman proposes creation of Subcommittee to monitor the National Strategy for the Development of the Health Economic-Industrial Complex](#)

[Padilha says he is in favor of pharmacists prescribing medicines, but only 'within strategic programs'](#)

[Controversy over authorization for pharmacists to prescribe medicine reaches the National Congress](#)

## BRAZIL NEWS

[Brazil Supreme Court to put Bolsonaro on trial for alleged coup attempt](#)

[Bolsonaro joins list of former Brazilian presidents with legal troubles](#)

[Brazil prosecutor general decides not to charge Bolsonaro for vaccine records fraud](#)

[Brazil's unemployment rate rises but job creation remains strong](#)

[Brazil central bank raises long-term inflation forecasts, sees challenging path to target](#)

[Brazil's central bank signals need for higher rates for longer](#)

[Brazil posts slightly wider-than-expected February budget deficit](#)

[Brazil to pursue 2026 primary surplus target despite challenges, minister says](#)

[Brazil planning minister sees room for rate cuts in second half of year](#)

[Brazil warns of big risk of global trade being 'weaponized'](#)

[Brazil's Lula warns Trump's tariffs risk inflation, vows WTO challenge on steel](#)

[Brazil holds off big tech tax amid Trump tariff talks, say sources](#)

[US turns to Brazil for eggs and considers other sources during bird flu outbreak](#)

[Brazil's Lula touts possible deals with Vietnam as he wraps state visit](#)

[Love motels and converted ferries: Brazil gets creative to host COP30](#)