

WEEKLY REPORT

04/19/2025



'MORE SPECIALISTS' PROGRAM WILL HAVE DIRECT PARTICIPATION FROM THE FEDERAL GOVERNMENT

The new version of the More Access to Specialists program foresees direct participation by the federal government in the actions. The idea is to directly hire professionals to provide services in regions with greater difficulty in recruiting doctors, nurses, or assistants, as anticipated by JOTA. Furthermore, the updated format requires the government to provide equipment so that surgeries and procedures can be performed within the initiative. This structuring should occur in both public hospitals and private and philanthropic hospitals that have idle areas. Payment may be made by reducing debts with the Union. [Read more.](#)

MORE ACCESS TO SPECIALISTS: GOVERNMENT PLANS TO OFFER SURGERIES IN PRIVATE HOSPITALS TO SPEED UP THE WAITING LIST FOR SUS

A year after being launched at the Planalto Palace in the presence of President Luiz Inácio Lula da Silva, the More Access to Specialists program has gone from an electoral gamble to a headache for the government, which has not yet managed to get the initiative off the ground. Under new leadership, now led by Alexandre Padilha, the Ministry of Health is focusing on a complete restructuring of the public policy, aiming to make it one of the hallmarks of the PT member's third term. The plan even includes taking users of the Unified Health System (SUS) to undergo procedures, such as exams and surgeries, in the private network. A name change to one with greater appeal is also planned, as a way to popularize it. The focus of the changes under discussion is to change the program's model, investing in partnerships with health plans. In addition, the new strategy calls for hiring medical teams and expanding the number of consultations and surgeries in the country. [Read more.](#)

MORE THAN 80% OF CERVICAL CANCER PATIENTS START TREATMENT AFTER THE LEGAL PERIOD OF 60 DAYS

A study by the Oncology Observatory indicates that 80.5% of women treated for cervical cancer in public health services began radiotherapy treatment after the legal period of 60 days, with an average waiting time of 117 days. The research analyzed data from the SUS (Unified Health System) between 2019 and 2023. During the period, 251,000 chemotherapy treatments were performed for 54,290 patients undergoing treatment. In radiotherapy, the total was 53,000 treatments for 47,000 people. Regarding initial treatment, 33.7% of women underwent combined therapy (chemotherapy and radiotherapy), while 31.8% received only surgery and 13.8% only radiotherapy. [Read more.](#)

DRUGSTORES DISCOUNTS FALL AFTER MEDICINE PRICE ADJUSTMENT

Since the beginning of the month, discounts in pharmacies have been lower, in response to the CMED's decision to reduce medicine prices by just 3.8% on average, the lowest value since 2018. According to the resolution, the readjustments have a maximum text of 5.06%. The information is from Valor Investe. The analysis was conducted by XP experts, who also assessed which chains changed their prices the most. Pague Menos was elected the pharmacy with the most affordable prices, with values around 8% below the regulatory limit. At the other end of the spectrum, prices charged by RD Saúde and Grupo DPSP were just 3% below the ceiling, although the brand that controls the Pacheco and São Paulo banners leads the ranking for discount offers, with an average of 35%. [Read more.](#)

ANVISA ORDERS PHARMACIES TO RETAIN PRESCRIPTIONS FOR OZEMPIC AND SIMILAR PRODUCTS

This Wednesday, the 16th, Anvisa - National Health Surveillance Agency determined that the medical prescription must be retained for the purchase of medicines such as Ozempic, Wegovy, Saxenda and similar, frequently used for weight loss. Although these drugs belong to the category of red-label drugs - which can only be sold upon presentation of a medical prescription -, in practice, many pharmacies were selling them without requiring the proper document, allowing access even to those who did not have it. Anvisa's new determination was motivated by a letter issued by the CFM - Federal Council of Medicine, in which the entity highlighted the importance of adopting stricter control over the prescription of these medicines. According to G1, during the deliberation, the agency's directors highlighted the urgency of protecting consumers against the misuse of these medications, which were originally developed to treat diabetes but have become widely prescribed for obesity. [Read more.](#)

ANVISA UPDATES GUIDELINES ON PROCEDURAL INSTRUCTIONS FOR REGISTRATION AND POST REGISTRATION OF BIOLOGICAL PRODUCTS

Anvisa published Technical Note 51/2025, which provides updates on the procedures required for the procedural instruction of requests for registration and post-registration of biological products. The original guidelines, described in Technical Note 134/2024, remain available on the Agency's website. However, Anvisa will soon present a consolidated version of the two documents, in the form of Questions and Answers, in order to make their reading more dynamic and enjoyable. One of the main changes is the inclusion of new subject codes for the registration of biological products, which now cover categories such as "OTHER BIOMEDICINAL PRODUCTS" and "BIOTECHNOLOGICALS". Among the subjects related to NEW biological products, the subcategories "ALLERGENIC PRODUCTS" and "PROBIOTICS" were also included. In addition, a specific subject was made available for updating the composition of vaccines intended for the prevention of Covid-19, in accordance with the Collegiate Board Resolution (RDC) 905 and Normative Instruction (IN) 316, both dated 9/18/2024. Another important update concerns the inclusion of examples of practical situations experienced by the technical area, in which the protocol for simultaneous post-registration petitions may be unique. RDC 913, of 9/19/2024, provides the conditions for the submission of a single file, which contributes to the reduction of administrative costs for the Agency and companies. Furthermore, guidelines were incorporated related to the end of the manual petition protocol, under the terms of RDC 947, of 12/12/2024, and the updating of links referenced in the old note. [Read more.](#)

LAW PASSED IN RIO DE JANEIRO REQUIRING MANAGERS TO PROVIDE HEALTH RECORDS FOR WOMEN DURING MENOPAUSE AND CLIMACTERIC

Managers of the state health system must provide health records for women during menopause and climacteric. This is what is determined by Law 10.739/25, authored by representatives Carla Machado (PT), Tia Ju (REP) and Dani Balbi (PCdoB), which was approved by the Legislative Assembly of the State of Rio de Janeiro (Alerj), signed into law by Governor Cláudio Castro and published in the Official Gazette of the Legislature. The objective is to offer a specific health guidance and monitoring tool for women going through these phases, integrating the Women's Quality of Life Program During Menopause and Post-Menopause, created by Law 9.249/21. [Read more.](#)

CONGRESSMAN PROPOSES THAT THE COMMISSION CONDUCT AN INSPECTION AND CONTROL ACT, WITH THE ASSISTANCE OF THE TCU, TO EVALUATE THE INSPECTION PERFORMANCE OF THE ANS

Congressman Roberto Monteiro Pai (PL-RJ) presented the Inspection and Control Proposal 12/2025, which proposes that the Consumer Defense Commission carry out an inspection and control act, with the assistance of the Federal Court of Auditors, to evaluate the inspection performance of the National Supplementary Health Agency, especially with regard to the correct application of adjustments due to cost variations in the monthly payments of private health care plans. [Read more.](#)

MORE HIGHLIGHTS

[ANS debates treatments for psoriasis and lymphoma](#)

[Anvisa approves first treatment for Friedreich's ataxia](#)

[Anvisa approves first vaccine for Chikungunya](#)

[Public hearing to discuss National Huntington's Disease Day](#)

BRAZIL NEWS

[Brazil acknowledges record debt risk this year, need for fiscal consolidation](#)

[Brazil sees worsening debt outlook despite rising primary surplus targets](#)

[Brazil auto market offers warning for US tariff policy](#)

[Peru court jails ex-President Humala for money laundering; Brazil grants diplomatic asylum to his wife](#)

[China's soybean imports from US jump in March, but Brazil set to dominate market](#)

[EU eases deforestation law reporting for companies](#)

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