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REGULATORY AGENCIES FACE SIGNIFICANT BUDGET CUTS OVER DECADE

The pressure on the federal budget due to mandatory expenses, with the surplus being disputed between the Executive and Legislative branches, has had a tangible impact on the functioning of regulatory agencies. With insufficient resources, managers are focused on "ensuring the essentials". In practice, the waiting lists for drug registration are multiplying; inspections are weakened; certifications are paralyzed; and exports are delayed. The survey conducted by Estadão/Broadcast using data from the Integrated Planning and Budget System (Siop), of the Ministry of Planning, shows that ten of the 11 federal agencies were affected by cuts in the last decade. In 2016, with ten agencies, R\$6.4 billion was released in the Annual Budget Law (LOA), in values adjusted for inflation. This year, with one more regulatory agency, the resources total R\$5.4 billion. Considering fixed expenses with employees, the overall reductions reach 41%. In a statement, the Ministry of Planning said it would not comment on the matter. The workforce is also suffering from dehydration, despite the growing demand for the operations of agencies linked to the Executive. Anvisa had 2,000 employees in 2016 and, in this year's statement, it has 1,400, registering the sharpest drop among regulatory agencies (-36.5%) over the last decade. The same occurs in practically all of them, with the exception of ANA, which has a virtually unchanged workforce. Read more.

NEW CMED INTERNAL REGULATIONS PUBLISHED

Resolution 02 of 2025 of the Chamber for the Regulation of the Medication Market (CMED) was published this Thursday (5/6), approving the new Internal Regulations of the Chamber and specifically amending CMED Resolution 2 of March 5, 2004. The modernization of the CMED Internal Regulations was decided at a meeting of the Council of Ministers, held on May 15th. The Internal Regulations are an important instrument that regulates the internal organizational structure and functioning of the body, aiming at the fulfillment of its regularly established public function. They detail the institutional mission, the respective competences (common and exclusive) of the existing bodies, as well as their internal and external relationships. In the case of CMED, the current Internal Regulations are governed by CMED Resolution 3, of July 29, 2003. After 21 years of its publication, the new draft released today aims to: - update the competences and attributions of the bodies that make up the CMED; - regulate the representation of bodies, the organization and functioning of meetings; - bring more predictability to CMED rituals and procedures; - bring modernity, agility and improved governance to the administrative processes under its jurisdiction; - optimize the work developed by the Executive Secretariat (SCMED), in synergy with the Technical-Executive Committee (CTE) and the Council of Ministers (CM); and - ensure legal certainty in dealing with issues under the jurisdiction of CMED. Read more.

UPDATING DRUG PRICING RULES: CMED'S NEW PROPOSAL

Since 2021, the Ministry of Economy has been working on reviewing the regulatory framework for drug pricing, which resulted in the recent publication of the Public Consultation on May 12, open for contributions from the general public until July 10. The proposed new regulatory text does not change the basis of the existing model, especially the maximum marketing price model (factory price). However, it changes and expands the basket of reference countries. Furthermore, it allows a fixed price to be established between presentations with different concentrations when the international price is fixed or when, in calculating the cost of

treatment, it is demonstrated that different concentrations of the same medicine result in the same therapeutic effect. Finally, the proposal lists a series of hypotheses in which the factory price can be determined based on the company's rationale, for example, when there is basic manufacturing of the production process internalized in the country or innovative activity carried out in the country. Read more.

CMED WILL PROMOTE DIALOGUE ON REVIEW OF DRUG PRICING RULES

The Executive Technical Committee of the Chamber for the Regulation of the Medicines Market (CTE/CMED) invites interested parties to participate in the sectoral dialogue on Public Consultation CMED 01/2025. The consultation addresses the proposed standard on the criteria for defining prices of new products and new presentations of medicines (art. 7 of Law 10.742/2003), and on the procedure for presenting the Price Information Document (DIP). The meeting, in addition to presenting and discussing the provisions of public consultation, is an opportunity for interested parties to clarify doubts and present suggestions. Read more.

OPERATIONAL PROFIT OF HEALTH OPERATORS JUMPS 2.5 TIMES, TO R \$ 4.5 BILLION IN THE 1ST QUARTER

Health plans operators recorded, in the first quarter, operating profit of R \$ 4.5 billion, which represents an increase 2.5 times over the gain in the same period as 2024, according to data from the National Supplementary Health Agency (ANS). It is the best result for a quarter since 2018. "The data demonstrate the consolidation of the recovery of the operating result of the operators, especially the hospital doctors, which reached the highest level in the historical series. This performance reflects not only a recomposition of revenues, but also an important balance of equilibrium in care expenses," said director of standards and qualification of ANS operators, Jorge Aquino. Read more.

GOVERNMENT EXPECTS TO SPEND R\$1 BILLION TO TREAT LESS THAN 10% OF SMA PATIENTS

The Ministry of Health estimates that it will spend R\$959 million over the next two years on the purchase of Zolgensma, considered the most expensive medicine in the world. The medicine is used to treat spinal muscular atrophy (SMA), a disease that, according to government data, affects one in every 100,000 people in Brazil, the equivalent of around 2,000 people. The estimate, however, is that 137 patients will receive the treatment during this period. Read more.

RISK SHARING AGREEMENT BETWEEN ROCHE AND A.C. CAMARGO OPENS DOORS TO THE SECTOR

Pharmacist Roche and A.C. Camargo Cancer Center released results from the risk sharing agreement for lung and liver cancer immunotherapy, signed in 2022, considered the first of the type in the sector in Brazil. The data indicate that there was effectiveness in 85% of use in patients in the period, with the compensation of the values of those who did not bring the expected impact. Read more.

NOVO NORDISK REDUCES PRICES OF OZEMPIC AND WEGOVY BY UP TO 20% IN THE COUNTRY

The Ozempic and WeGovy pens of the new Nordisk pharmacist will be between 10% and 20% cheaper from this Monday (02), depending on the concentration of the active Principle Semaglutida. Price reduction in pharmacies, according to the Danish company, aims to "expand access" to the treatment of diabetes and obesity amid the falsification of Semaglutida flooding the clandestine market and the debut of competitor Mounjaro, from Eli Lilly, in Brazil. The discount reaches almost 20% for 0.25 milligram pens in e -commerce, while in physical stores the price will be about 9.8% lower. The new Nordisk semaglute in the shape of tablets under the Rybelsus brand will also be cheaper. Read more.

AI IMPROVES ACCURACY OF BREAST CANCER DIAGNOSIS BY 22%, STUDY SAYS

A new study has shown that the use of artificial intelligence (AI) can increase the accuracy of breast cancer diagnosis by 22%. The work, which involved researchers from 10 countries, including Brazil, was presented at the American Society of Clinical Oncology (ASCO) 2025 Annual Congress. The research focused on a group of patients that represents the majority of breast cancer cases: HER2-low or HER2-ultra-low. These are cases of tumors that have some level of expression of the HER2 protein, which plays a crucial role in cell growth and development. Tumors with high levels of HER2 (called HER2-positive) can be more aggressive. Read more.

CONSORTIUM UNITES PHARMACEUTICAL COMPANIES TO EXPAND LUNG CANCER DIAGNOSIS IN BRAZIL

Pharmaceutical companies AstraZeneca and Pfizer renew their partnership for the 2025 edition of the Lung Mapping program, which aims to promote and expand access to molecular diagnosis of non-small cell lung cancer (NSCLC) in public and private systems, considering patients with non-squamous subtype tumors, in advanced or metastatic stages, who have not previously participated in testing programs. Read more.

MINISTRY OF HEALTH ESTABLISHES TECHNICAL GROUP TO STRENGTHEN CANCER RECORDS

The Ministry of Health published, in the Federal Official Gazette on Wednesday (4), Ordinance No. 7,051, of June 3, 2025, establishing the Ministerial Technical Group (GT-RC) for the institutionalization of cancer records. According to the standard, the GT-RC will aim to structure integrated actions to institutionalize, regulate and qualify the records of population base (RCBP) and hospital (RHC), acting in three main axes: support for regulation and financing; Analysis of Health Information Systems; and formulation of professionals training strategies, focusing on strengthening the epidemiological surveillance of cancer. more.

MINISTRY OF HEALTH CREATES NEW STRUCTURES AND INSTITUTES CANCER CARE DEPARTMENT

This Wednesday, 4, the federal government published Decree No. 12.489/2025 which amends the internal organization of the Ministry of Health and creates new structures in the folder. The Secretariat of Specialized Health Care (SAES) now receives two new departments, one focused on cancer care and another of strategies for expanding and qualifying specialized care. Read more.

PROVISIONAL MEASURE ALLOWS LULA GOVERNMENT TO ACT IN STATES AND MUNICIPALITIES AGAINST SUS QUEUES

The MP (Provisional Measure) that creates "Agora Tem Especialistas" allows the Ministry of Health to act directly in states and municipalities to reduce the SUS queue. The text signed this Friday (30) by President Lula (PT) breaks with the logic in force since the creation of the Unified Health System, in which the Ministry of Health acted mainly by transferring resources to local health departments to carry out services. Now, the ministry will be able to sign a contract with hospitals and clinics across the country. Minister Alexandre Padilha (PT) states that the ministry's efforts should last up to 36 months and does not mean intervention by the federal government. "This experience will help to consolidate the extent to which the Union can take part in supporting states and municipalities," said the minister. Read more.

BRAZIL REACHES TARGET FOR PRIMARY CARE DOCTORS, BUT TURNOVER IS HIGH IN POORER AREAS

Almost all health regions in Brazil (99%) reached the target of one professional for every 3,500 inhabitants in primary health care units by 2024, including doctors and non-doctors. However, the area faces high turnover of medical graduates, with 33.9% of layoffs. The most notable departure is from those working in family health and in regions with lower economic development. Although national coverage has advanced, distortions across the country are

blatant. While in Piauí 98% of units have the proportion of doctors considered adequate for primary health care, in Amapá it is 53%. Read more.

PDPS ANNOUNCEMENT IS MARKED BY VARIETY OF PUBLIC LABORATORIES; SECTOR AWAITS NEW CYCLES OF DISCLOSURES

The Ministry of Health announced last Thursday (29) the second wave of projects approved under the Local Development and Innovation Program (PDIL) and partnerships for Productive Development (PDP). In total, 29 proposals were approved, and the investment will be more than 2.3 billion reais. In PDPs, 7 rare diseases drugs have been approved. The variety of public laboratories and partner pharmaceuticals involved was pointed out by the sector as a plus point. The ministry points out that 19 proponents participated in the proposals accepted by the folder. PDIL proposals were the ministry's biggest focus in this lead of approvals. With R \$ 377.8 million and 22 approved projects, the products range from insoles to prevent elderly falls to xenotransplants. The application of Artificial Intelligence and Telehealth Systems were also contemplated. Read more.

NUMBER OF FORMAL JOBS IN THE HEALTH PRODUCTION CHAIN REACHES 5.18 MILLION

The number of formal jobs in the healthcare production chain in Brazil grew by 0.7% in the first quarter of 2025 compared to the last quarter of last year, rising from 5.15 million jobs in December 2024 to 5.18 million in March of this year – which corresponds to an increase of 34.8 thousand jobs in the sector. The result was confirmed by the 76th Edition of the Employment Report in the Healthcare Production Chain (RECS) produced by the Institute of Supplementary Health Studies (IESS) and demonstrates the "resilience of the sector even in the face of a more moderate growth rate". Read more.

MORE HIGHLIGHTS

Senator Dr. Eudocia proposes a subcommittee to discuss high -cost therapies and drugs against cancer

More than 90,000 cancer cases are directly linked to smoking, study says

Genetic testing should benefit 300 children with cancer in São Paulo

Atopic dermatitis now has full treatment in the SUS after inclusion of three medications

WHO body warns of increase in whooping cough and yellow fever in the Americas

Anvisa will hold 3rd Workshop of Biological and Biosimilar Products

BRAZIL NEWS

Brazil's Lula and France's Macron spar over EU-Mercosur trade deal

Lula vows to defend Brazil's Supreme Court as US threatens judge

IMF projects Brazil will grow 2.3% this year, inflation to converge to target in 2027

Brazil currency seen flat in near-term, restrained by trade worries: Reuters poll

Brazil central bank chief vows flexibility, caution ahead of rate decision

Brazil's May trade surplus lands below expectations as import growth persists

Brazil ties potential IOF tax rollback to approval of new measures to be unveiled next week

Brazil plans to cut tax breaks, curb education spending in fiscal package, say sources

Exclusive: Brazil government to back bill cutting tax breaks by 10%, say sources

Exclusive: Petrobras aims to make Africa its main exploratory region outside Brazil, CEO says

Brazil's energy ministry says it is discussing measures to increase government revenue

Brazil's Petrobras cuts gasoline prices for the first time since 2023

Brazil prosecutors try to block \$180 million carbon credit deal

Brazil's poultry exports fell in May, hit by bird flu case

Brazil agriculture minister calls for bird flu vaccination debate

Gol exits Chapter 11 with plans to add new routes and expand fleet

Catholicism shrinks in Brazil as evangelical faith surges

Relações Governamentais