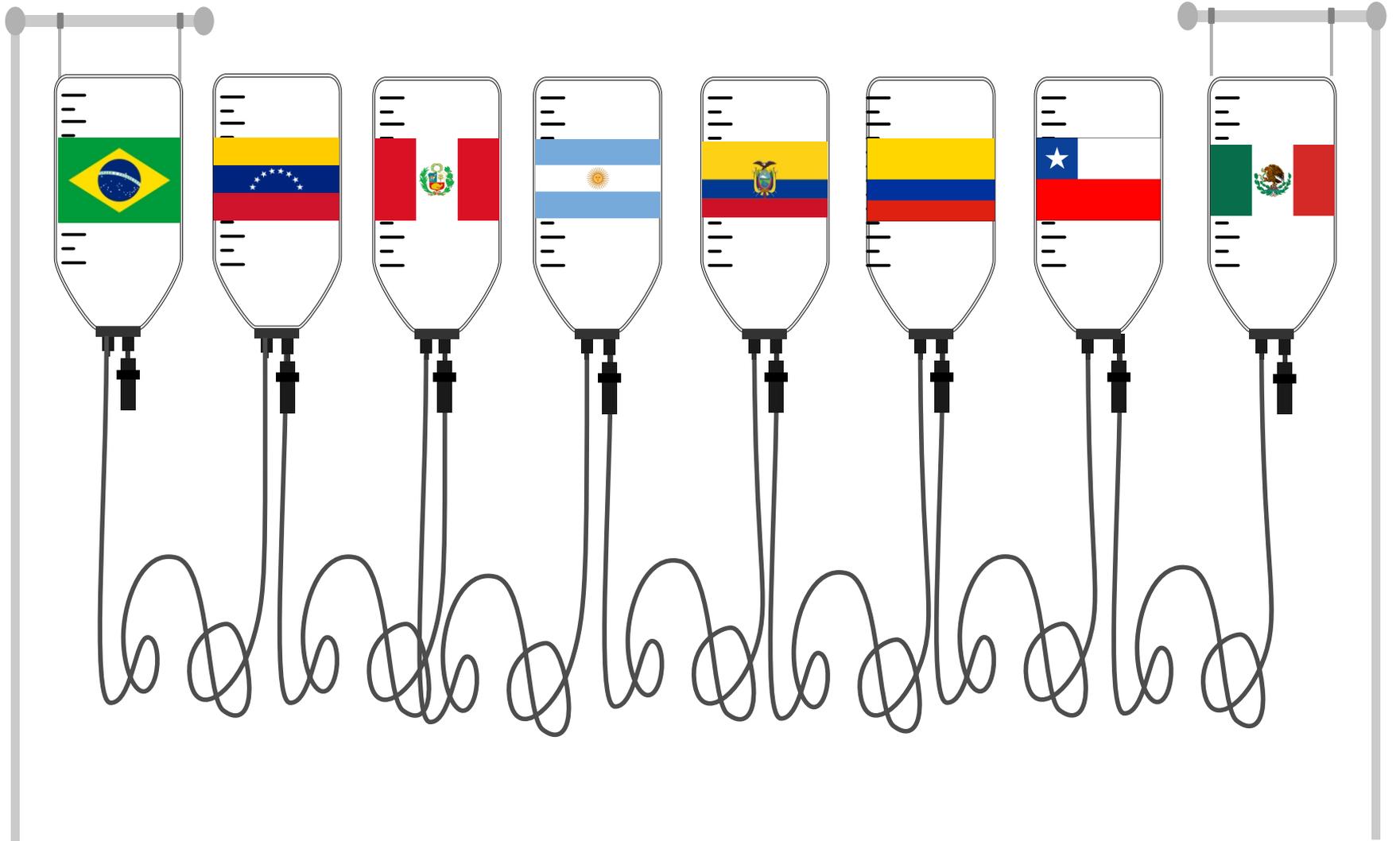




Main news:

- Health sector
- Regulatory affair
- Pricing policies
- And others.



Brasil

Perú

Venezuela

Colombia

Chile

Mexico

Argentina

Ecuador

FenaSalud extends debate on fraud and abuse in Health

The "mafia of orthoses, prostheses and special materials (OPME)", one of the major bottlenecks of the health system in Brazil, will be one of the topics of the 3rd Supplemental Health Forum promoted by the National Supplementary Health Federation (FenaSalud), in October in the city of São Paulo.

FenaSalud seeks to fight frauds in OPMEs (pacemakers, cardiac stents, silicone breast implants, stems, pins, and others) with the aim of guaranteeing more security to the beneficiary and mitigating irregularities such as improper incentives, use of materials by professionals and hospitals, and interventions without necessity, explains the president of the Federation, Solange Beatriz Palheiro Mendes.

Sandro Leal, Superintendent of Regulation FenaSalud, is supervising the procedures that are being applied in the United States, where also the issue of fraud of OPME is recurrent. The superintendent points out that Americans are much more advanced in terms of establishing and enforcing penalties compared to Brazil, as well as transparency and the exchange of information between entities to achieve satisfactory results.

Initiatives that seek to promote best practices in the market for implantable medical devices come from 2015, when the Interministerial Technical Group (GTI) of OPME, of which FenaSalud is part, has been created. The GTI was created through an ordinance signed by the ministries of Health, Finance and Justice. During that time, some results were achieved, according to FenaSalud, such as the creation and dissemination of reports, surveys on discrepancies on the scene, and a guide with guidance on the rational use of OPMEs for operators

Source: Periódico oglobo

Brazil



We need to talk about the health plan

Only 22% of the Brazilian population have access to health services, is expensive and low quality. Coverage of a health plan is a privilege of a minority. According to data from the National Supplementary Health Agency (ANS), today, about 47.6 million Brazilians have a health plan. Although the number seems high, that corresponds to only 22% of the Brazilian population, estimated at 207.9 million people, according to IBGE.

Bloomberg last year conducted a global survey on health systems: Brazil was left in the shameful 54-position among 55 countries. The data used is from 2014. Although the discussion about the model of private health in Brazil is complex and has been dragging for years, there are alternatives that have already been adopted abroad. According to the ANS, the number of attachments to health plans in Brazil fell by 3.1% in 2016, in relation to the previous year. In view of the high costs of the plans, especially in a scenario of economic crisis and high unemployment, it is more than appropriate to think about alternatives that generalize private health services.

Source: Portal Unidas Saúde



The second call for the nomination of benefits that could not be paid with public resources allocated to health ends.

The Ministry of Health and Social Protection receives 27 technologies nominated for the exclusion process, among which are medical devices:

Therasuit, Pediasuit, Penguinsuit and Adelitsuit methods in patients with cerebral palsy.

Tomatis therapy in children with autism.

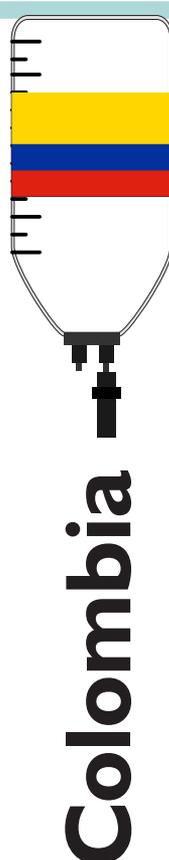
Cunningham pincer in patients with urinary incontinence.

Staff for placement and orientation in patients with binocular blindness.

Mini Mic microphone in patients with unilateral sensorineural hearing loss with contralateral unrestricted hearing.

Cleaning towels for Provox prostheses in patients with artificial larynx.

Source: Ministerio de Salud y Protección Social



Pacific Alliance began to negotiate trade agreements with partners

The Pacific Alliance began this week in Lima to lay the foundations of trade agreements with Australia, New Zealand and Singapore to enter the agency as "Associated States", from the label of observer countries'.

The first round of negotiations was set for October 23, said Peruvian Vice Minister of Foreign Trade Edgar Vasquez.

The Chilean, Colombian, Mexican and Peruvian bloc and the future four partners agreed that the agreements should include tariff measures, trade in services, investment, movement of people and even the internationalization of small and medium-sized enterprises.

"The priority must be to deepen and strengthen the dynamics among member countries, before admitting new members. Let us hope that the materialization of the new category of associated countries does not imply the dilution of responsibilities that gives full membership, "Martín Carrizosa, president of the Colombia Chapter of the Business Council of the Pacific Alliance (Ceap), wrote in the last edition of the magazine of the National Association of Entrepreneurs (ANDI), released last June.

Source: Diario El Colombiano

Argentina

Argentina monitors pacemaker in the country that may suffer cyber-attacks

The National Administration of Medicine, Food and Medical Technology (ANMAT) is monitoring in the country, the situation of the pacemakers

of the brand Abbot, whose source code as revealed by the US FDA is vulnerable, even though they have not yet been reported adverse effects on the devices.

This National administration is monitoring in the country the situation" of five models of pacemaker Abbot "through the area of surveillance of the direction of Medical Products, without having at the moment reports of adverse effects associated with possible hacks to such devices".

Source: Periódico La Nacion

Diabetes: a device that measures glucose without punctures arrived in the country

A device that measures glucose it is a small sensor, of the size of a two coin pesos, that is placed in the arm and minute by minute, measures the glucose in the interstitial fluid through a small filament that is placed just below the skin and is maintained in place attached to a small adhesive patch. The National Administration of Medicines, Food and Medical Technology (ANMAT) approved a new device for glucose monitoring, based on a revolutionary technology that contributes to a better control of diabetes, an epidemic disease, affecting 1 in each 10 adults in the country.

With this new system, called "FreeStyle Free", people with diabetes can count on a painless and more convenient alternative to monitor their glucose, according to experts at the disease during the device's press presentation, which took place today.

Source: Periódico La Prensa

Venezuela

Report to denounce crisis in the health sector in Venezuela

José Manuel Olivares, deputy to the National Assembly, denounced that there is 95% shortage in treatment for cancer patients, also mentions that a report will be prepared on the shortcomings of the health system in Venezuela.

The parliamentarian reported this Sunday via Twitter that the document will be sent to international bodies to denounce the current situation that citizens suffer in the country. Olivares said that Venezuela has a 95% rate of scarcity of chemotherapies and the lack of radiotherapy to treat cancer patients.

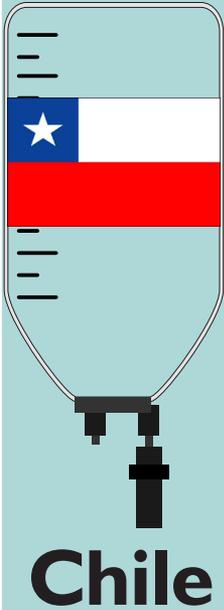
Source: Periódico El Nacional

Venezuelan hospitals in crisis due to lack of medical supplies

In Venezuelan hospitals the scarcity is widespread, the medical profession reports that half of operating theaters are not operational and the shortage of medicines in pharmacies exceeds 80 percent. In addition, 90 percent of the tomography, mammography, resonators and laboratories do not work in Venezuelan hospitals.

Venezuelan hospitals in crisis due to lack of medical supplies. The hospital reality and its growing crisis affects thousands of Venezuelans, especially the vulnerable population among children, pregnant women and the elderly.

Source: Periódico Ultimas Notas



Cenabast exposed on GS1 standard reaches in Technology Day of Health 2017

The Ministry of Health organized the first national find of Digital Strategy in Health in which are participating Health Services and Seremis.

The Information and Communication Technologies Division of Minsal organized the First National Seminar on Digital Health Strategy 2017 and aims to address progress in this area from a sectoral perspective and not focus the work only on the computerization of public health establishments.

In this context, the Director of the Supply Center, Pablo Venegas, was invited to explain the progress that is evidencing the service in this area and specifically with the work being implemented to the processes of Storage and Distribution in Lourdes.

The topic on which Cenabast's highest authority spoke was about GS1 standardization for the traceability of medicines for the Health sector and how this agreement with this international organization will allow the entire network to "tend to converse in a common language thanks to a coding system that is used around the world and that will allow us to follow the route of all the products into the warehouses of the hospitals.

The activity is organized by the Information and Communication Technologies Division of Minsal and aims to approach the digital strategy from a sectoral perspective and not focus the work only on the computerization of public health establishments.

That is why the call includes ICT references of Seremi and Health Services throughout the country, as well as representatives of autonomous agencies (FONASA, Cenabast, ISP and Superintendence of Health).

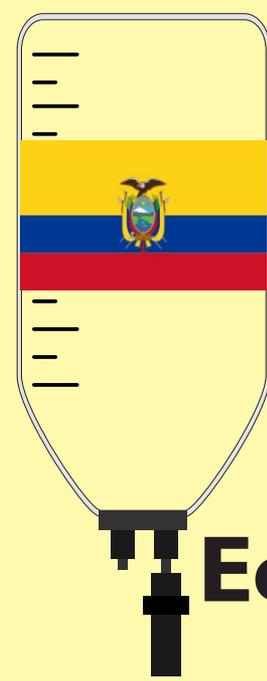
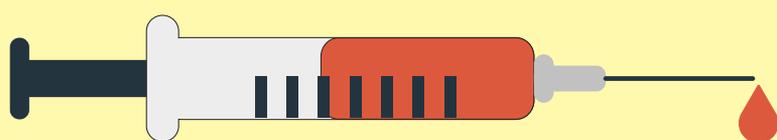
The meeting will be extended for three days as follows:

5 September: Digital Health Sector Strategy, Extended Session

September 6: Digital Strategy for Healthcare Networks (SIDRA), with referents of Health Services. In parallel, Digital Strategy for Public Health (MIDAS), with referents of the Health Seremi.

September 7: Training in "Best Practices and International Models for Management in Information Security, Incidents and Continuity".

Source: Portal Cenabast



Health strengthens the processes of sanitary registration

In order to exchange experiences on processes and activities related to registration and post-registration control of medicines, technicians from the Brazilian National Health Surveillance Agency (Anvisa) have developed a workshop with professionals from several Ecuadorian institutions.

Amjad Abdulla, National Director of Sanitary Control of the Ministry of Public Health (MSP), has indicated to MEDICAL EDITOR that the training had the objective of "strengthening the processes of granting sanitary registration and registration of medicines and specifically among other topics: on bioequivalence studies, bioavailability, pharmaceutical equivalence, therapeutic equivalence, biocomparability and post-registration control."

He emphasized that in the framework of the "Basic Agreement of Technical Cooperation" between the governments of Brazil and Ecuador, technical support has been sought for the "strengthening of the regulatory functions of pre and post authorization of medicines in Ecuador".

The workshop has also sought to "harmonize criteria for the conduct of bioequivalence studies in pharmaceutical products, as they differ from country to country and contribute to the training of ARCSA analysts, in relation to the knowledge and technical skills and procedures that are used during the processes of granting sanitary registration of medicines in general and biological medicines," the official said.

Source: Redacción Medica



Out-of-pocket spending on health, pending issue in Mexico

Each year, according to estimates by the Ministry of Health, millions of families face catastrophic expenses on issues of this nature.

In Mexico, health spending is provided by families who have or do not have access to social security services, said Francisco Oliveros, CEO of Seguros Sura México. "Despite being entitled, many families prefer to pay for private services for various reasons, but the main one is the attention to amenities perceived in hospitals," he said. Health out-of-pocket spending, according to the Fundar analysis and research center, is defined as the proportion of spending that families allocate through direct costs, to meet the different health care requirements once satisfied their food needs.

In Mexico, this expenditure by households constitutes 45% of the health system's income and 4% of household expenditure, according to data from the Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development (OECD). These figures are among the highest among the member countries of the organization. According to the Model of Comprehensive Health Care of the Ministry of Health, every year an estimated 2 to 3 million families face catastrophic health costs, while 1.2 million cross the poverty line for this cause. "The problem is not unknown to the Mexican government," the insurer said.

Source: Portal América Economía

México

Mexico, important business headquarters for medical devices

Mexico is the business platform for Central America and the Caribbean of the Becton Dickinson (BD) medical device company, and one of the most important manufacturing sites, with six plants in our country.

Its plants are located in Tijuana, Nogales, San Luis Potosí and three in the complex of Cuautitlán, State of Mexico, in the latter is the largest headquarters of manufacturing prefilled syringes worldwide.

The annual production of the Cuautitlán (HYPACK) plant is greater than 1.3 billion units and represents 60 percent of manufacturing at the global level.

The combined company will be able to treat 75 percent of the costliest and most frequent causes associated with healthcare-associated infections, Forlenza said.

Source: NTR periodismo crítico

Users will be able to directly purchase various medical devices



Medical devices such as colostomy bags, burn gauze, neonatal blankets, filters, dialyzers, among others, can be purchased directly by the population from pharmacies or laboratories by submitting the medical prescription only, according to the Directorate General of Medicines, Supplies and Drugs (Digemid) of the Ministry of Health.}

This provision was approved by Directorate Resolution 033-2017-DIGEMID-DG-MINSA, in which annexes are indicated to biomedical equipment of class I, II, III and IV, as well as controlled technology and in vitro diagnostic medical devices, among others.

The standard also states that other medical devices such as vital signs monitors, defibrillators, electrocardiographs, anesthesia machines, X-ray equipment, tomography, mammography, in vitro diagnostic reagents, among others, can be purchased directly from the drugstores by professionals of Health and Institutions that Provide Health Services (IPRESS).

Digemid specialists noted that very low-risk medical devices such as stethoscopes, electronic thermometers, dental instruments can be sold directly to the public in commercial establishments.

Source: Portal América Economía

Soft tissue and bone regenerator Development of a biomedical team that integrates combinatory methods of cellular stimulation in damaged tissues

In Peru high-tech medical equipment is usually imported at very high costs and its application is limited to large hospitals that are only found in the most important cities of the country. There is no local development of medical technologies that can cover the coverage needs of different health services. Often times, the principles of acquired technologies are not completely assimilated to extend applications to new clinical treatments due to lack of technical support services and research development. In treatments in regenerative medicine, it is common to use drugs that reduce their effectiveness when dealing with chronic diseases.

Source: Diario Médico, Edición Agosto – Septiembre 2017



Perú

