

Building the team, converging the rules, widening access

August was a month of momentum at Thera: two senior advisors joined the firm, TheraTalks ran four back-to-back episodes, and our monthly column tackled Latin America's quiet fertility crisis. Around us, the global and regional agenda moved on the topics we track most closely — regulatory convergence, biosimilars and health-system resilience. Let's create value together.

THERA IN ACTION

The firm welcomed two Senior Strategic Advisors this month, deepening its bench in global health regulation and advanced therapies.

NEW ADVISOR · AUG 5

Daniel López Lizama joins as Senior Strategic Advisor — Global Health, Law, Policy & Regulation

López Lizama brings deep expertise in global health governance, legal and regulatory affairs to Thera's advisory network — strengthening the firm's capacity on the geopolitics of access to health technologies.

[Read more →](#)

NEW ADVISOR · AUG 13

Sebastián Millar Santelices joins as Senior Strategic Advisor — Advanced Therapies & Precision Medicine

Millar Santelices reinforces Thera's precision-medicine practice, adding senior expertise in advanced therapies just as the region confronts the access and reimbursement questions these treatments raise.

[Read more →](#)

THERATALKS · FOUR EPISODES THIS MONTH

Our interview series ran weekly through August. Watch on [YouTube](#) and follow on [LinkedIn](#).

EPISODE 3 · AUG 4

Regulatory harmonization, convergence & reliance in Latin America, with Rivelino Flores (CANIFARMA)

A deep dive into how reliance and convergence between regulators can speed access to medicines across the region — one of Thera's core structural themes.

[Watch Episode 3 →](#)

Quality, compliance & resilient supply chains, with Carmen Polanco

Thera's Quality Architect on why robust quality systems and compliance are the backbone of supply-chain resilience in the pharmaceutical industry.

[Watch Episode 4 →](#)

Health journalism, public policy & the fight against misinformation, with Maribel Ramírez Coronel

A conversation on the role of health journalism in shaping sound public policy — and countering the misinformation that undermines access and trust.

[Watch Episode 5 →](#)

Global health governance, geopolitics & access to health technologies, with Daniel López

Closing the month, Thera's newest advisor explores how geopolitics and global governance shape whether health technologies actually reach patients.

[Watch Episode 6 →](#)

COLUMN OF THE MONTH · EL ECONOMISTA · AUG 16

Fertility in Latin America: the development crisis no ministry claims as its own

By José Luis Cárdenas & Constanza Salas. Latin America is living the fastest demographic transition in the world — Chile's fertility rate is now near 0.99, and Brazil and Mexico have both fallen below replacement. Thera's column reframes the debate: this isn't a birth-rate problem but a widening gap between the children people want and those they can have, and much of that gap is an unfunded healthcare-access issue.

The piece makes the case finance ministries understand — reproductive medicine is one of the few health interventions with a quantified fiscal return — and argues that fertility policy belongs not only to health, but to finance, labor and social development. Access follows legislation and public funding; where those are absent, treatment becomes a market commodity.

[Read the full column →](#)

GLOBAL OUTLOOK · THIS MONTH

African health ministers adopt a 2026-2035 strategy to harmonize medical-product regulation

At the 76th WHO Regional Committee for Africa in Addis Ababa, member states adopted a new Regional Strategy on Regulation of Medical Products (2026-2035), aiming to raise more national regulatory authorities to WHO maturity level 3 and expand reliance, harmonization and the African Medicines Agency — a continental convergence agenda that closely mirrors the one Thera champions in Latin America.

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BIOSIMILARS · ACCESS POLICY · AUG

A maturing biosimilars market keeps testing whether approvals translate into access

August brought fresh biosimilar launches and approvals in oncology and ophthalmology biologics, extending a steady expansion of the field. But the policy lesson Thera tracks is that approval is not access: uptake still hinges on interchangeability rules, procurement design, prescriber confidence and reimbursement — the levers that determine whether lower-cost biologics actually reach patients in LATAM.

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SPOTLIGHT ANALYSIS

Regulatory convergence: the quiet lever behind faster, fairer access

This month's signals line up around a single idea. Africa adopted a ten-year strategy built on reliance and harmonization; TheraTalks devoted an episode to convergence in Latin America with CANIFARMA; and the biosimilars field kept maturing on the back of clearer, more predictable regulatory pathways. The common thread is that access is decided long before a medicine reaches a pharmacy — in the rules that govern how it is assessed, approved and trusted across borders.

For Thera, convergence is one of the highest-leverage structural reforms available to the region. When regulators rely on each other's work rather than duplicating it, quality-assured products — including biosimilars and advanced therapies — reach patients faster and at lower cost. The task for Latin America is to move convergence from principle to practice: shared assessments, mutual recognition and the institutional trust that makes them work.

LATAM IN FOCUS · THIS MONTH

PAHO · ONE HEALTH · AUG 26

PAHO urges stronger surveillance as avian influenza A(H5) keeps circulating in the Americas

In its August 26 epidemiological update, PAHO reported that ten countries notified 455 animal outbreaks of avian influenza A(H5) between January and mid-July 2026 — a 25.7% drop versus 2025, with no human cases in the region so far this year. PAHO called on countries to reinforce integrated human-animal-environment surveillance and genomic monitoring under a One Health approach.

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Let's create value together

From diagnosis to demonstrable impact — talk to Thera about your access and policy challenges.

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