

## Intercultural Health and Dentistry.

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Apropos of the new regulation on public policies of Intercultural Health, called “*Systematization of the proposals of the native peoples to receive health care with cultural pertinence*”, the Commission for Interculturality in Dentistry of the University of Concepción raised the need to share the construction of this regulation.

In addition, students and professionals of Dentistry are poorly prepared regarding Intercultural Health and care with cultural pertinence. This puts at risk the ethical action of dentists who work in sociocultural realities different from that of common citizenship in general.

Therefore, the First Conference on Intercultural Health in Dentistry was organized, a pioneering event in Dentistry. This event was held on Saturday, August 19 and was attended by two key people in the drafting of this regulation, the lawyer and Mapuche Florencia Alvez Marin and Mapuche leader Maria Olmos Loncopan, president of the Association of Urban Mapuche of Chiguayante.

The sociologist and intercultural adviser of the Talcahuano Health Service, the Mapuche Pavel Guíñez Nahuelñir also participated and analyzed from the “*rakiduum mapuche*” (meaning mapuche thinking) the senses and non-senses that this debate represents for the Mapuche nation, making it clear that the interculturality currently adopted by the Chilean State has a perspective of “cultural appropriation”, far from the true sense of multicultural coexistence.

Finally, the dentist and psychologist Ricardo Cartes-Velasquez expressed his impressions about the inequities and injustices that exist in health for the Mapuche nation, narrating his experience as a rural dentist in Alto BioBio.

This event was highly attractive for students from different academic areas, from medical to social sciences. We believe that only through collaborative and interdisciplinary work among peoples in a horizontal way, in the face of the autonomy and early freedom of the Native Peoples, we will achieve a more just and free society as a Plurinational and Multicultural State.

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