

# BUILDING THE POSSIBILITY OF USER PARTICIPATION IN MUNICIPAL HEALTH CONFERENCES: AN EXPERIENCE REPORT

# CONSTRUINDO A POSSIBILIDADE DE PARTICIPAÇÃO DOS USUÁRIOS NAS CONFERÊNCIAS DE SAÚDE MUNICIPAIS: UM RELATO DE EXPERIÊNCIA

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#### ABSTRACT

Objective: To analyze the decision-making process during the 12th Municipal Health Conference of the Municipal Health Council, held in the municipality of Tucuruí-PA. Methodology: It is a qualitative study of the descriptive-exploratory type, which is based on the problematization method with the application of Arco de Maguerez for the theoretical and practical foundation of the study, based on five steps, being the observation of reality, key points, theorization, solution hypotheses and application in reality. Results: The municipal management and the Municipal Health Council promoted the 12th Municipal Health Conference, on April 13, 2019, with the presence of 80 people, being citizens, mayor, secretaries, professionals and academics, among the age group of 18 to 60 years old. However, previously, 04 council meetings were held, 02 pre-conference, one in the Basic Health Unit of Santa Monica and the other in the Teapykawa Assurini Indigenous Village, through seminars, round tables, as well as open debates. Conclusion: It was possible during the municipal health conference to address how themes related to the principle of community participation in the construction of the draft health laws are essential for maintaining the universality, equity and integrality of the Unified Health System.

Keywords: Health System; Health Conference; Democracy; Community Participation.

#### RESUMO

Objetivo: Analisar o processo de tomada de decisão durante a XII Conferência Municipal de Saúde do Conselho Municipal de Saúde, realizada no município de Tucuruí-PA. Metodologia: Trata-se de um estudo qualitativo do tipo descritivo-exploratório, que tem por base o método da problematização com aplicação do Arco de Maguerez para a fundamentação teórica e prática do estudo, baseando-se em cinco etapas, sendo a observação da realidade, pontos-chave, teorização, hipóteses de solução e a aplicação na realidade. Resultados: A gestão municipal e o Conselho Municipal de Saúde promoveram a XII Conferência Municipal de Saúde, em 13 de abril de 2019, contando com a presença de 80 pessoas, sendo cidadãos, prefeito, secretários, profissionais e acadêmico, entre a faixa etária de 18 a 60 anos de idade. Contudo, anteriormente, foram realizadas 04 reuniões do conselho, 02 pré-conferência, sendo uma na Unidade Básica de Saúde do Santa Mônica e a outra na Aldeia Indígena Teapykawa Assurini, por meio, de seminários, mesas redondas, assim como, debates abertos. Conclusão: Foi possível durante a conferência de saúde municipal abordar como os temas relativos ao princípio da participação da comunidade na construção de projetos de leis sobre a saúde são essenciais para a manutenção da universalidade, equidade e integralidade do Sistema Único de Saúde.

Palavras-Chave: Sistema Único de Saúde; Conferência de Saúde; Democracia; Participação Comunitária.



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# INTRODUCTION

The Federal Constitution of 1988 promoted the decentralization of public policy management, making the participation of civil society effective in the decision-making process on matters related to health as a general right. Thus, norms and deliberations were created with the aim of providing greater autonomy and effective participation of the community regarding the structuring process of health care, thus, the influence of the various social elements in public institutions were surely expanded and essential for the development of services provided <sup>(1)</sup>.

Furthermore. the formulation of constitutional regulations established by the Unified Health System (SUS), supported the implementation of institutional innovations such as the formation of municipal, state and national conferences and public policy management councils. which became essential for the strengthening of the democratic regime in society, enabling the expansion of their civil rights and contributing to closer relations with the legislative sectors <sup>(2)</sup>.

Furthermore, as proposed by Law No. 8142/1990, the Health Council must establish strategies capable of promoting the maintenance and control of health policies, as well as structuring the economic and financial sectors, so that the services provided are qualified and trained each increasingly, verifying needs and needs and formulating ways to remedy them. In addition, this law regulates the role of Health Conferences, elucidating their circumstances and purposes, evidencing that this event must take place every four years, in order to analyze and discuss public policies in each sphere of government and to introduce guidelines on the issue at national, state and municipal level, contributing to the verification of other social policies, which correspond to the policy of women, children and adolescentes <sup>(3)</sup>.

In this perspective, the Councils and Conferences are essential for the maintenance of a comprehensive public health policy, essential for strengthening the and qualification of the services offered, in addition to complementing the effective participation of the community in the formulation of deliberations, in a way that emphasizes the the value of democracy against the structuring of social health measures, demonstrating that the discussions held in this environment provide the assessment of social interests and conflicts, permeating ideas for harmonizing the proposed subjects and the basis for remedying the main problems imposed  $^{(4)}$ .

In the meantime, the study aimed to analyze the decision-making process during the XII Municipal Health Conference of the Municipal Health Council, held in the municipality of Tucuruí-PA, in 2019, using

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the influence of policies as a reference base. public at municipal conferences and how popular representation can act in the formulation of deliberations for the qualification and qualification of the health provided. services In addition, the importance this presentation and of institutional element for the improvement of the democratic premise and the legislative sectors was verified.

## METHODOLOGY

This is a qualitative descriptiveexploratory study, which is based on the problematization method with the application of the Arch of Maguerez for the theoretical and practical foundation of the study. This method is based on five steps, which are: The observation of reality, key points, hypotheses theorization, solution and application in reality, being characterized as potential stimuli to an educational and adaptive process  $^{(5)}$ .

From this perspective, the first phase, called observation of reality, was promoted through debates held at meetings of the Municipal Health Council, where community issues. claims and needs of each neighborhood and also of indigenous communities were put on the agenda, through of 3 meetings in planned sectors. Then, the second stage was started, which consisted of defining the guiding questions, namely: What



are the main needs related to health institutions? How to alleviate community problems? What are the most emergency issues? How to list and cover all audiences?

From this, followed to the formulation of the third stage, which consists of theorization, promoted by the bibliographic analysis of data searched on websites and digital platforms such as Scielo, LILACS and other literature that served as the basis for the study, which included content on Health Conferences, their importance and citizens' rights. Thus, the bibliographies were selected and organized in an organizational chart following the inclusion criteria, such as a five-year time frame and full article, in order to then analyze popular participation during a conference and the impact of this process on social reality.

In this sense, the fourth stage took place to define the hypotheses for a solution, in order to organize the plans that were intended to integrate the demands of the communities and solve the existing problems. Finally, there was the fifth stage for the application in reality, which was developed through two meetings aimed at the population of the city of Tucuruí-PA, where information, questions and positions were raised about the Health Council and its role in ensuring rights of the community and health professionals.



## RESULTS

Health Conferences (HC) are an institutional advance based on the principle of deliberate democracy in Brazil. From this, they are characterized by popular support in the development of public policies aimed at guiding the health services certified by the Unified Health System (SUS) since 1986. Therefore, this care model occurs through a pathway double, the first is the adherence, mobilization and social representation of different communities, in order to guarantee the right to equity, especially among marginalized groups and, second, a political representative committed to dialogue with those involved in CS, seeking to create a consensus among the interests of all <sup>(6)</sup>.

In this sense, community engagement becomes a pillar to the "social control" of public service, which represents a national achievement to decentralize and municipalize care networks. Consequently, there was a transition in which the user (patient) took responsibility for evaluating the effectiveness of resolving measures in health, thus, Law No. 8142/90 was recognized, which provides for the organization of federal, state and municipal health councils, which would affirm the bases of the SUS, such as universalization, integrality, hierarchy and cooperation of Society <sup>(7)</sup>.

Thus, the municipal administration of Tucuruí-Pa and the Municipal Health Council

promoted the XII Municipal Health Conference, on April 13, 2019, to expand forums for political training and deliberation of action plans for the promotion, protection and recovery the quality of life of individuals, as well as defining the allocation of social security resources to these decisions, with this, had the presence of 80 people, being citizens, mayor, secretaries, professionals and academic, between the age group of 18 to 60 years old. However, previously, there were 04 council meetings, 02 pre-conferences, one at the Santa Mônica Basic Health Unit and the other at the Teapykawa Assurini Indigenous Village, through seminars, round tables, as well as open debates.

From this perspective, the conference presented the generating theme "Democracy and Health" which was divided into 04 axes of discussion, such as I) Health as a right – it addressed the creation of the National Health Council, in addition to the current parity configuration; II) Consolidation of the SUS dealt with Organic Law n° 8.080/90 in the formation of the SUS; III) SUS Financing worked on the SUS underfunding associated with the invention of the Electronic Citizen's Record (PEC) and IV) Democracy and Popular conceptualized Participation democracy, through a playful dynamic, in which they created 04 groups, with the objective to prepare municipal and state proposals for each axis, with this, 39

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representatives attended the plenary, among these 05 were on the motion and 12 delegates were chosen, among the segments of "Management",

Regarding the limitations found in the event, it is reported the attendance of few residents of the city of Tucuruí, located in the southeast region of the state of Pará, associated with inefficient dissemination, given that the municipality has a vast geospatial extension and the need for a majority to be present at this event, as it is, in this way, that the leaders will be buried in the real conditions of health services, the efficiency of the care provided, the programs that are active and the pending issues of the unit in each neighborhood.

Therefore, as a solution measure, it is proposed to articulate marketing strategies through which contact networks will be formed with communities, such as social pages of the health council, in which relevant decisions would be disclosed to the conference, as well as posts about social commitment in acting on these occasions, in addition to using public tools to make the invitations, informing the local date and time, in general, the car-sound would be used and, at a local level, the UBS for the distribution of leaflets.

#### DISCUSSION

# Perspective of meetings in the health council:

Health councils represent an organ of social control, as the collective and governmental sector needs, in an integrated way, to articulate and implement health services, programs, protocols, based on surveillance and integral commitment, hence the composition of members it must be between users and government representatives. In the municipality of Tucuruí-PA, the coordination of the Health Council is formed by a president, first secretary, executive secretary, health democratically secretary and elected counselor, according to the ethical-politicalideological principles (8).

In view of this, the municipal level has the commitment to mobilize social groups to add the social cause of holding conferences, both local and district, in order to transform them into the true protagonists of "doing health", through the recognition of rights and duties as SUS users <sup>(9)</sup>. Therefore, the Tucuruí council meetings took place between March and April 2019, with a total of 04 meetings, from 5:00 pm to 6:30 pm, of counselors, professors and nursing students from the teaching institutions Universidade Estadual do Pará (UEPA ) and Faculty Gamaliel.



From then on, the conversations were saved, by a recording device, to file the raised agendas, as well as the decisions reached at the end of the meeting. With that, the main points discussed were the pre-conference dates, being signed that the UBS Santa Mônica was on April 3, 2019, starting at 6:00 pm (afternoon period), and that of the Teapykawa Assurini village on April 21 of 2019, at 9:00 am (morning period), the date and location of the municipal conference, which consisted of April 12 and 13, 2019, at the establishment Sabor dos Sonhos Eventos, respectively.

Soon, there was a proposal to divide the academics into organizational committees, with the intention of optimizing the tasks of the conference, with this, 3 teams were formed for "Report", which would write the minutes with the proposals chosen in the plenary and the description of the activities carried out on each of the two days; "Organization" that were in charge of organizing the place, such as delegation of spaces for the round table, accreditation, time limit for the plenary sessions and the speakers of each axis; "Accreditation" responsible for collecting the signature of all participants, aiming at the delivery of the event certificate with a workload of 40 hours.

# FINAL CONSIDERATIONS



Therefore, it was possible during the municipal health conference to address how issues relating to the principle of community participation in the construction of health bills are essential for maintaining the universality, equity and integrality of the Unified Health System. social control emerges as an effect of this participation, which has as its object not strictly the health sector. but the understanding of this field in its reciprocal implications with social and economic policies.

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