



Department of Health
Agency of Human Services



Health Department Sponsors "Considering Culture Conference" on May 29

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BURLINGTON – The Vermont Department of Health will sponsor a "Considering Culture Conference" for health care providers on May 29 at the Hilton Hotel in Burlington. Registration for the conference (8 a.m. to 4 p.m.) has reached its capacity and is now closed, as more than 200 have signed up to attend.

"Vermonters come from a wide range of racial, ethnic and cultural backgrounds. In Burlington, 56 languages are spoken by students in the school system," said Health Commissioner Harry Chen, MD. "The purpose of this conference is to promote best practices for developmental screening and assessment of all young children. Vermont health care providers are clearly committed to improving diagnosis and treatment of patients from diverse backgrounds."

Keynote speaker Naomi Steiner, MD, of Tufts University will present "Bilingualism for Health Professionals and Educators: How Kids Learn Two Languages" at 8:45 a.m. At 10 a.m., Roula Choueiri, MD, of Tufts University, and Elaine Gabovitch, Act Early State Team Leader at the University of Massachusetts Medical School, will discuss their team process of developing a multicultural autism screening kit.

Andrea Green, MD, director of the University Health Center Immigrant Clinic at Fletcher Allen Healthcare will share refugee stories from Vermont (11 a.m.).

A family experiences panel and a roundtable discussion will be held in the afternoon.

For more information on the Considering Culture Conference visit:
<http://healthvermont.gov/events.aspx#csbn>

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