Distribution of *Isodictya* (Porifera, Poecilosclerida) in both sides of Drake Passage

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*Isodictya* (Family Isodictyidae Dendy, 1924) represents a genus rich in number of species and with wide geographic distribution and ecological radiation. Species of *Isodictya* are characterized for its flabellate or digitate erect growth forms, a choanosomal skeleton reticulate or plumoreticulate; megascleres are mostly diactinal, usually oxas; microscleres palmate isochelae, frequently with plate-like inner extensions of the falxes. The big size of most specimens provide a special habitat to colonize by other organism as pycnogonids, ophiuroids and crustaceans. A large number of species have be found around the world; endemisms are frequent and only a few species have been found in different regions. It has been the focus of some different assignments in the porifera classification. In recent Systema Porifera, Hajdu & Lôbo-Hajdu (2002), included this family in Suborder Mycalina with the other valid genus *Coelocarteria*.

Desqueyroux & Moyano (1987) for a primary zoogeographic study of Chilean Demospongiae were selected 92 species but any *Isodictya* and Desqueyroux-Faundez (1975, 1989) mentioned three species from Antarctica. Sará et al, (1992) studied biogeography of Antarctic Demosponges with 11 *Isodictya* in their checklist. Specimens of this genus collected in three Spanish Antarctic expeditions (Bentart 94, Bentart 95 and Bentart 2003) from Antarctic Peninsula and Bellingshausen Sea are included in this work.

The aim of the present study is to examine the composition of *Isodictya* fauna existing in both regions of Drake Strait and to discover if these species have distinct geographic distribution patterns.