

DIALOGUES IN RESEARCH ETHICS

Friday, February 20, 2026, 12:00 – 1:00 p.m.

Don Soffer Clinical Research Building, Room 1080A

A light lunch will be provided.

Click [here](#) to RSVP.

Ethical Opportunities and Challenges of Translational Research Involving Organoids and Related New Approach Methodologies

Jeremy Sugarman, MD, MPH, MA

Harvey M. Meyerhoff Professor of Bioethics and Medicine

Berman Institute of Bioethics
Johns Hopkins University



Accompanying stunning scientific developments with organoids is considerable enthusiasm for using them and related so-called "new approach methodologies" (NAMs) in translational research. The allure of using NAMs includes the possibility of minimizing the use of nonhuman animals in research and providing better predictors of safety and efficacy of experimental interventions. However, despite such promises there are some challenging ethical issues that warrant careful attention. This Dialogue in Research Ethics will involve a discussion of these opportunities and tradeoffs.

At the end of this session, you will be able to:

1. Describe some of the opportunities associated with organoids and related new approach methodologies.
2. Recognize some of the ethical challenges regarding them.
3. Understand the need to incorporate ethics considerations in research using new approach methodologies.

Jeremy Sugarman, MD, MPH, MA is the Harvey M. Meyerhoff Professor of Bioethics and Medicine in the Department of Medicine and the Berman Institute of Bioethics at the Johns Hopkins University. He is an internationally recognized leader in bioethics with particular expertise in applying empirical methods for evaluating and analyzing bioethical issues. His contributions to bioethics and policy include work on the ethics of informed consent, stem cell-related research, international HIV prevention research, global health and research oversight. Dr. Sugarman is the author of over 400 articles, reviews and book chapters. He has also edited or co-edited four books.

Dr. Sugarman consults and speaks internationally on a range of issues related to bioethics. He was senior policy and research analyst for the White House Advisory Committee on Human Radiation Experiments, consultant to the National Bioethics Advisory Commission, and Senior Advisor to the Presidential Commission for the Study of Bioethical Issues. He is a member of the ethics and public policy committees of the International Society for Stem Cell Research.

Dr. Sugarman has been elected as a member of the American Society of Clinical Investigation, Association of American Physicians, and the National Academy of Medicine (formerly the Institute of Medicine). He is a fellow of the American Association for the Advancement of Science, the American College of Physicians and the Hastings Center. He also received a Doctor of Science, honoris causa, from New York Medical College.