

UNIVERSITY OF MIAMI/VA MEDICAL CENTER

DIALOGUES IN RESEARCH ETHICS

Dialogue 3

Outcomes Research, Practice Guidelines and Artificial Intelligence

Peter Winkelstein, MD

State University of New York at Buffalo

12 Noon, Friday, Nov. 13, 1998

VAMC Conference Room 207

(Research & Education Bldg., across from library)

—————→ Lunch will be provided ←————

Modern medicine is defined in part by its use of therapies demonstrated to work by scientific evidence. Outcomes research purports to provide such evidence, but such studies are plagued by a host of practical and philosophical problems. Furthermore, experience with artificial intelligence computer programs casts doubt on the value of the empirical approach fostered by outcomes research. This raises important ethical questions about the proper use of outcome studies.

Dr. Winkelstein is Director of Medical Informatics in the Department of Pediatrics at the State University of New York at Buffalo. He is a member of the American Medical Informatics Association Ethics Committee and a founding member of AMIA's Ethical, Legal and Social Issues Working Group.

Dialogues in Research Ethics is a series of monthly conferences. For more information about the series, phone 305-243-5723, write to Medical Campus Box M-825 or send E-mail to ethics@newssun.med.miami.edu

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