

UNIVERSITY OF MIAMI/VA MEDICAL CENTER

DIALOGUES IN RESEARCH ETHICSDialogue 6**Science, Disability and 'Deaf Culture'**

Thomas J. Balkany, M.D.
University of Miami

12 Noon, Friday, March 24, 2000
Veterans Affairs Medical Center, Room 207 (across from Library)

—————> Lunch will be provided <—————

Research on interventions to reduce or eliminate disability is shaped by a rich ensemble of challenges. For one thing, human subjects with disabilities are often regarded as vulnerable and hence entitled to extra protections, for example by the Americans with Disability Act. But in some cases, the interventions themselves — no matter how successful — are sometimes disdained by the very population the research is intended to help. This is especially the case with studies of cochlear implants and the controversy this occasions among members of what has come to be known as “Deaf Culture,” who deny that deafness is a disability in the first place. How are we to understand and respond to this apparent dichotomy?

Dr. Balkany, Chairman of the Department of Otolaryngology at the University of Miami School of Medicine, is Hotchkiss Professor of Otolaryngology.

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

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