

Dialogue 143

Bedside Genome Sequencing: What History Tells Us about the Future of Newborn Screening

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State newborn screening programs are among the most remarkable public health advances in recent history, in part because their origins lie in advances in laboratory science. We are on the verge of a new era in which the tools of lab science, such as whole genome sequencing, seem to be advancing faster than our ability to understand how to deploy them. This poses ethical issues for clinicians at the bedside, as well as for policy-makers eager to maintain the public health features of newborn screening programs. These issues are addressed from a historical perspective using autism as a salient example.

Dr. Brosco is Professor of Clinical Pediatrics at the Miller School of Medicine, Associate Director of the Mailman Center for Child Development, Regional Medical Director for CMS South Region and Chair of Jackson Health System's Pediatric Ethics Committee. He directs the HRSA-funded Leadership Education in Neurodevelopmental Disabilities (LEND) Training Program. A pediatrician and a historian, Dr. Brosco's research addresses historical and ethical issues in developmental disability, newborn screening, infant mortality and other topics. He is the recipient of an Arsht Distinguished Ethics Faculty Award from the UM Ethics Programs' Arsht Ethics Initiatives.

In special collaboration with the Leadership Education in Neurodevelopmental Disabilities (LEND) Training Program at the Mailman Center for Child Development.

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