

Dialogue 148

# Informed Consent and its Discontents: The Challenge of Health Literacy

Erin N. Marcus, M.D., M.P.H., and Leonardo Tamariz, M.D., M.P.H.  
*University of Miami*

Noon, Friday, March 8, 2013  
RMSB, 4<sup>th</sup> Floor Auditorium, Medical Campus

Nearly half the United States population has low health literacy, which has been consistently associated with adverse health outcomes and poor self-care behavior. This important determinant of health also directly affects comprehension of information needed for informed consent in clinical research. This shortcoming must be addressed out of respect to our research subjects. This Dialogue will provide evidence-based tips on how to improve comprehension in the informed consent process and a forum to discuss ways in which our institution can move forward in addressing the issue.

Dr. Marcus is associate professor of clinical medicine in the UM Department of Medicine's Division of General Internal Medicine. Dr. Tamariz is associate professor in the Division of General Internal Medicine and the Human Subjects Protection Chairperson at the Miami Veterans Affairs Health System.

*Dialogues in Research Ethics is a series of monthly conferences. For more information, phone UM Ethics Programs at 305-243-5723 or E-mail [ethics@miami.edu](mailto:ethics@miami.edu).*

Co-Sponsors:

- UM Office of Research
- University of Miami Hospital
- Jackson Health System
- UMHC / Sylvester Comprehensive Cancer Center
- UHealth / University of Miami Health System
- VA Healthcare System