

Dr. John K. Niparko is the George T. Nager Professor of Otolaryngology-Head & Neck Surgery at Johns Hopkins and Director of the Divisions of Otology-Neurotology and Audiology. He received his undergraduate and professional training in Otolaryngology at the University of Michigan. He is the Past President of the American Otological Society and currently serves as the Editor-in-Chief of *Otology & Neurotology*. He received the Deafness Research Foundation's 2002 Hearing Research Award.



Dr. Niparko's primary research interest relates to the developmental consequences of surgical intervention in deafness, an interest that was founded in research training supported by a K08 Award from the NIDCD. He currently holds R01 funding from the NIDCD as the Principal Investigator of the study *Childhood Development after Cochlear Implantation*.

The goal of this prospective, longitudinal study is to determine the predictive value of clinical variables as they relate to communication, behavior, and economic outcomes of cochlear implantation in young children with profound sensorineural hearing loss. The study attempts to address the complexity of language development under conditions of restored audition in the very young child when a variety of operational skills develop rapidly.

A major aim is to determine the impact of conventional clinical indicators and parent-child interactions on levels of oral language, speech recognition, selective attention, and quality-of-life attained with cochlear implantation. CDaCI methods are based on novel approaches to outcome assessment, including videoanalysis of parent-child interactions. The CDaCI Study Team involves 62 investigators from six university-based clinical sites and two data coordination centers.

Dr. Niparko will discuss clinical aspects of hearing loss and its rehabilitation across the entire age spectrum.

#### References

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