Topics in Health Economics, EUI Spring 2019

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Office hours: tbc

Course Information: This is a half-credit course. We will meet for 5 lessons of 2 hours each.

Prerequisites: The course is for students who have completed the first year of postgraduate econometrics.

Course overview: This is a graduate course designed to cover frontier topics in health economics. It covers very recent substantial contributions to the field (often not published yet or forthcoming), advances in data and in methodology.

Course details: Further course details including assessment deadlines, readings and course materials will be posted online.

Evaluation: class participation (20%), a paper presentation (30%), and a referee report (50%).

Participation: To benefit from this class, students are expected to have read the starred papers for each lecture in detail and to be ready to discuss them; non-starred references are suggested readings that should be helpful to go into greater depth on a topic.

During lectures 2-5, a subset of students will present a related paper. Each presentation will last 15 minutes, and should include a brief summary of the research question, the contribution of the paper, the empirical strategy, and the main findings. At the end of the presentation, students should constructively criticise the paper or suggest extensions.

Students can pick one of the papers from the reading list (or find a paper on a related topic) and write a referee report. Advice on how to write an effective referee report can be found here.

Lecture 1: Long-run impacts of early life health interventions

*Almond, D., Currie, J., and Duque, "Childhood Circumstances and Adult Outcomes: Act II." With Douglas Almond and Janet Currie (Forthcoming at the Journal of Economic Literature). NBER Working paper 23017.

*Butikofer, A., K. L. k. and K. Salvanes (2018). Infant health care and longterm outcomes. Review of Economics and Statistics, forthcoming.

*Hoynes, Hilary, Diane Whitmore Schanzenbach, and Douglas Almond. 2016. Long-Run Impacts of Childhood Access to the Safety Net, American Economic Review, 106 (4): 903-34.

*Currie, J. and J. Gruber (1996b). Saving babies: the efficacy and cost of recent changes in the Medicaid eligibility of pregnant women. Journal of Political Economy 104 (6), 1263-1296.

Bhalotra, S., M. Karlsson, and T. Nilsson (2017). Infant health and longevity: Evidence from a historical intervention in Sweden. Journal of the European Economic Association 15 (5), 1101-1157.

Hjort, J., M. S_lvsten, and M. Wust (2017). Universal investments in infants and long-run health - evidence from Denmark's 1937 home visiting program. American Economic Journal: Applied Economics 9, 78-104.

Card, D., C. Dobkin, and N. Maestas (2008). The Impact of Nearly Universal Insurance Coverage on Health Care Utilization: Evidence from Medicare. The American Economic Review 98 (5), 2242.

Currie, J. and J. Gruber (1996a). Health insurance eligibility, utilization of medical care, and child health. The Quarterly Journal of Economics 111 (2), 431-466.

Wherry, L. R. and B. D. Meyer (2016). Saving teens: using a policy discontinuity to estimate the effects of Medicaid eligibility. Journal of Human Resources 51 (3), 556-588.

Bhalotra, S. and A. Venkataramani (2015). The captain of the men of death and his shadow: Long-run impacts of early life pneumonia exposure. IZA Working Paper.

Jayachandran, S., Lleras-Muney, A., and K. Smith (2010), Modern Medicine and the 20th-Century Decline in Mortality: Evidence on the Impact of Sulfa Drugs, American Economic Journal: Applied Economics, April 2010, vol. 2 (2), pp. 118-146.

Lecture 2: Intergenerational impacts of childhood interventions

*Cook, C. Justin and Fletcher, Jason M and Forgues, Angela, Multigenerational Effects of Early Life Health Shocks, NBER WP 25377.

*Akresh, R., Halim, D., Kleemans, M. (2018) Long-term and Intergenerational Effects of Education: Evidence from School Construction in Indonesia, NBER WP 25265.

Anderberg, D., Bagger, J., Bhashkar, V., and T. Wilson (2019), Marriage Market Equilibrium, Qualifications, and Ability, unpublished.

Eika, L., Mogstad, M. and Zafar, B. (2019), Educational Assortative Mating and Household Income Inequality, Forthcoming in ***Journal of Political Economy***.

Lecture 3: Mortality and health gaps across space and time

*Case, Anne, and Angus Deaton. 2017. Mortality and Morbidity in the 21st Century, Brookings Papers on Economic Activity, Spring 2017.

*Finkelstein, A., Gentzkow, M., Williams, H. (2019), Place-Based Drivers of Mortality: Evidence from Migration, mimeo.

*Chetty, R. and Hendren, N. (2018), The Effects of Neighborhoods on Intergenerational Mobility I: Childhood Exposure Effects, Quarterly Journal of Economics, 133(3): 1107-1162.

*Chetty, R. and Hendren, N. (2018), The Effects of Neighborhoods on Intergenerational Mobility II: County Level Estimates, Quarterly Journal of Economics, 133(3): 1663-1228.

Finkelstein, A., Gentzkow, M., Williams, H. (2016), Sources of Geographic Variation in Health Care: Evidence from Patient Migration, *Quarterly Journal of Economics* 131(4): 1681-1726

Chetty, R., Stepner, M., Abraham, S., Lin, S., Scuderi, B., Turner, N., Bergeron, A., and D. Cutler (2016), The Association Between Income and Life Expectancy in the United States, 2001-2014, *The Journal of the Americal Medical Association* 315(16): 1750-1766.

Cutler, David, Angus Deaton, and Adriana Lleras-Muney (2006) "The determinants of mortality," Journal of Economic Perspectives 20(3): 97-120.

Lecture 4: Competition and incentives in the health care sector

*Chandra, A., Finkelstein, A., Sacarny, A., Syverson, C. (2016), Health Care Exceptionalism? Performance and Allocation in the US Health Care Sector, American Economic Review 106(8): 2110–2144.

*Gruber, J., Hoe, T. and Stoye, G. (2018) "Saving Lives By Tying Hands: The Unexpected Effects of Constraining Health Care Providers", NBER Working Paper W24445.

*Doyle, Joseph, Todd Wagner, and Steven Ewer (2010) "Returns to physician human capital: Evidence from patients randomized to physician teams," Journal of Health Economics 29(6): 866-882.

*Schnell, M. (2018), Physician Behavior in the Presence of a Secondary Market: The Case of Prescription Opioids, Unpublished.

Clemens, Jeffrey and Joshua Gottlieb (2014) "Do physicians' financial incentives affect medical treatment and patient health?" American Economic Review 104(4): 1320-1349.

Doyle, J. J., Graves, J. A., and J. Gruber (2019), Evaluating Measures of Hospital Quality. . *The Review of Economics and Statistics*. Forthcoming.

Gaynor, M., Propper, C., and S. Seiler. 2016. "Free to Choose? Reform, Choice, and Consideration Sets in the English National Health Service." American Economic Review, 106 (11): *3521-57.*

Lecture 5: Health complementarities

*Ehrlich, I., Becker, G. S., 1972. Market insurance, self-insurance, and self-protection. Journal of Political Economy 80 (4), 623–648.

*Fichera, E., Banks, J., Siciliani, L. & Sutton, M., 2018, Does Patient Health Behaviour Respond to Doctor Effort?, Journal of Economic Behaviour and Organisation 156, Pages 225-251.

Honore, Bo and Adriana Lleras-Muney (2006) "Bounds in competing risks models and the war on cancer," Econometrica 74(6): 1675-1698.