

MAGGIE SHI

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EDUCATION

PhD	Columbia University Economics	2016 - 2022
BA	Rice University Mathematical Economic Analysis and Statistics <i>magna cum laude</i>	2012 - 2016

FIELDS OF SPECIALIZATION

Primary Field: Public Economics; *Secondary Field:* Health Economics

JOB MARKET PAPER

[The Costs and Benefits of Monitoring Providers: Evidence from Medicare Audits](#)

Abstract: This paper examines the extent to which government programs should monitor for wasteful expenditure when outsourcing to third parties, taking into account the costs and savings associated with monitoring. I use novel administrative data to study the largest Medicare monitoring program aimed at identifying unnecessary inpatient admissions and reclaiming payments for them. I exploit plausibly exogenous variation across hospitals and across patients, and find that the majority of savings are due to the deterrence of future admissions. I do not find evidence that the marginal patient denied admission is harmed, suggesting that hospitals fine-tune their response to target unnecessary care. But in doing so, they incur compliance costs and adopt technology specifically aimed at assessing the medical necessity of care. For every \$1,000 in savings to Medicare, hospitals incur \$216 in compliance costs. My welfare calculations imply that despite the costs, increasing monitoring improves welfare.

WORKING PAPERS

[Regulated Revenues and Hospital Behavior: Evidence from a Medicare Overhaul](#) *(submitted)*

with [Tal Gross](#), [Adam Sacarny](#), and [David Silver](#)

Abstract: We study a 2008 policy reform in which Medicare revised its hospital payment system to better reflect patients' severity of illness. We construct a simulated instrument that predicts a hospital's policy-induced change in reimbursement using pre-reform patients and post-reform rules. The reform led to large persistent changes in Medicare payment rates across hospitals. Hospitals that faced larger gains in Medicare reimbursement increased the volume of Medicare patients they treated. The estimates imply a volume elasticity of 1.2. To accommodate greater volume, hospitals increased nurse employment, but also lowered length of stay, with ambiguous effects on quality.

[Job Lock, Retirement, and Dependent Health Insurance: Evidence from the Affordable Care Act](#)

Abstract: The 2010 Affordable Care Act expanded health insurance coverage to dependents up to age 26, allowing some parents to add adult children to their employer-sponsored plans. I leverage this policy to understand the role adult children play in their parents' labor supply and consider a potential spillover of the dependent mandate policy to parents: did parents delay retirement to take advantage of the policy? I find that affected parents' retirement rate fell by 3.8 percentage points after policy enactment, causing them to delay retirement by 0.74 years on average. An estimated 290,000 parents delayed retirement in order to obtain coverage for their children.

[Free to Spend? The Effect of Decentralization on Local Governments](#)

with [Andrea Tulli](#)

Abstract: This paper considers whether decentralization of tax revenue to local governments affects their budgetary decisions. We study a 2012 Italian decentralization reform which (1) expanded municipalities' discretion in setting property tax rates, and (2) increased the share of the budget a municipality is responsible for raising through taxes. We exploit the unexpected nature and differential impact of the reform to document three findings. First, we use novel data on the tax rate the national government would have chosen in a centralized setting and compare it to the actual local tax rates municipalities chose, and find heterogeneity in how municipalities used their newfound discretion. Second, we find that municipalities responsible for raising a greater share of their budget raise more revenue and spend the additional resources on public services. Third, we show how political competition at the local level shapes the response. Municipalities with lower political competition spend less in public services, but more on administration and remuneration of public officials.

WORKS IN PROGRESS

Medical Necessity and the Cost and Quality of Healthcare

with [Ashvin Gandhi](#)

Research Question: How does requiring healthcare providers to demonstrate medical necessity change the cost and quality of care they provide?

What Determines Compliance with Hospital Pricing Transparency Laws?

with [Ben Chartock](#)

Research Question: Hospitals are required by law to disclose prices, yet many do not comply with this law -- what are the market-level and hospital-level determinants of compliance, and what does this imply about the usefulness of price transparency laws?

AWARDS AND FELLOWSHIPS

R36 Dissertation Fellowship Health Services Research Dissertation Program Agency for Health Research and Quality	2020 - 2022
Harriss Prize Best second-year paper Columbia University	2018
Dean's Fellowship and Faculty Fellowship Columbia University	2016 -2022
Peter Mieszkowski Prize for Honors Program Research Rice University	2016

GRANTS

Columbia Applied Microeconomics Colloquium Data Grant	2019
Columbia Applied Microeconomics Colloquium Travel Grant	2019
Columbia Program for Economic Research Travel Grant	2019
Columbia Program for Economic Research Data Grant (2x)	2018, 2019

TEACHING EXPERIENCE

The American Economy (Halbac)	F2018, F2019, F2020
Intermediate Microeconomics (Vergote)	S2019, S2020
Principles of Economics (Miller, Zaniboni)	F2017, S2018

RESEARCH ASSISTANTSHIP

Adam Sacarny 2019
Michael Best, François Gerard 2018 - 2020

INVITED PRESENTATIONS

ASSA, EEA, APPAM Student Research Series, Columbia HPM, ASHEcon, 2021
WEAI Graduate Student Workshop, EHEC, Congressional Budget Office,
SHESG, SEA*, NTA*, Rice University*, APPAM* (* *scheduled*)
YES, NTA 2020
ASHEcon, SOLE 2019

OTHER ACTIVITIES

Panel on the Path to Economics and Related PhDs -- *panelist* 2020
Health Economics Bootcamp Alumni Online Workshop -- *organizer* 2020
NBER Health Economics Bootcamp -- *invited attendee* 2019
Columbia Applied Microeconomics Reading Group -- *organizer* 2019

CITIZENSHIP

USA

REFERENCES

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