

## Tatyana V. Avilova

### CONTACT INFO

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Columbia University  
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### PLACEMENT CHAIRS

Donald Davis [drd28@columbia.edu](mailto:drd28@columbia.edu)  
Suresh Naidu [sn2430@columbia.edu](mailto:sn2430@columbia.edu)

### PLACEMENT ASSISTANT

Amy Devine [aed2152@columbia.edu](mailto:aed2152@columbia.edu)

### REFERENCES

**Douglas Almond** Department of Economics and School of International and Public Affairs  
Columbia University  
[da2152@columbia.edu](mailto:da2152@columbia.edu)

**Sandra Black** Department of Economics and School of International and Public Affairs  
Columbia University  
[sblack@columbia.edu](mailto:sblack@columbia.edu)

**Adam Sacarny** Department of Health Policy and Management  
Columbia University Mailman School of Public Health  
[ajs2102@columbia.edu](mailto:ajs2102@columbia.edu)

**David Weinstein** Department of Economics  
Columbia University  
[dew35@columbia.edu](mailto:dew35@columbia.edu)

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### EDUCATION

Columbia University	
Ph.D. in Economics	2022 (expected)
M.Phil in Economics	2019
M.A. in Economics	2018
Harvard University	
B.A. in Economics, <i>magna cum laude</i>	2013

### FIELDS

Applied Microeconomics, Health Care and Education

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### JOB MARKET PAPER

Regulation Attenuation: Cross-Border Spillovers and Policies in the Opioid Epidemic

**Abstract:** Prescription drug monitoring programs (PDMPs)—online systems that health care providers and pharmacists can use to query patient prescription records—are one of

the most widely-used state tools in regulating the prescribing and dispensing of opioids. However, the staggered adoption of PDMPs over time has created opportunities for patients to evade monitoring by going to a state that does not have a PDMP. This paper evaluates how spillovers attributable to policy non-coordination between neighboring states impact the effectiveness of PDMPs. I find that after prescribers gain access to PDMPs, opioid volume and prescription opioid deaths decrease in counties with a PDMP that are insulated from opportunities for evasion. I find a similar effect in counties with a PDMP that are exposed to evasion. This suggests that exposure to evasion through proximity to non-PDMP areas does not significantly attenuate the policy effect. I also find evidence that opioid volume and prescription opioid deaths decrease in counties without a PDMP that are exposed to spillovers from counties with the policy. Illicit opioid deaths are not affected in any counties with a PDMP but decrease in counties without a PDMP that are exposed to spillovers. I discuss the potential mechanisms through which spillovers may operate.

## PUBLICATIONS

### What Can UWE Do for Economics?

with [Claudia Goldin](#). *AEA Papers and Proceedings*. 2018;108: 186-190.

**Abstract:** Men outnumber women as undergraduate economics majors by three to one nationwide. Even at the best research universities and liberal arts colleges men outnumber women by two to one or more. The Undergraduate Women in Economics Challenge began in 2015 as an RCT with 20 treatment schools and at least 30 control schools to evaluate whether better course information, mentoring, encouragement, career counseling, and more relevant instructional content could move the needle. Although the RCT is still in the field, results from several within treatment-school randomized trials demonstrate that uncomplicated and inexpensive interventions can substantially increase women in economics.

## WORK IN PROGRESS

### Nudging Providers to Curtail Dangerous Opioid Prescribing: A Trial to Investigate Mechanisms

with [Mireille Jacobson](#), [Weston Merrick](#), [David Powell](#), [Adam Sacarny](#), and [Ian Williamson](#)

**Abstract:** Nearly all states have Prescription Monitoring Programs (PMPs) to facilitate safer prescribing of opioids and other drugs, but research suggests that these systems only deliver benefits when health care professionals are required to use them. Even with PMP mandates in place, providers may be unaware of the dangers of co-prescribing opioids with benzodiazepines or gabapentinoids, which include increased risk of overdose and death. We conduct a randomized clinical trial of 12,000 prescribers in Minnesota whose patients had filled an opioid prescription and either a benzodiazepine or gabapentinoid prescription in the four months prior to randomization. Prescribers received an initial and follow-up letter highlighting either 1) a new PMP use requirement, 2) a list of up to five patients with opioid co-prescriptions, 3) both the PMP use requirement and the patient co-prescription list or 4) control (no letters). Using administrative data, we track effects of the letters on prescriptions and PMP usage and queries. Results will inform future work by state and local policymakers to make opioid prescribing safer.

Impact of New Curriculum for Introductory Economics Courses on Student Opinions and Economic Knowledge with [Rena Rosenberg](#) and [Sarah Thomas](#)

**Abstract:** Curriculum Open-access Resources for Economics (CORE) is an alternative curriculum to teach introductory economics. The goal of the CORE USA Project is to expand student reach and to inspire a more diverse student body to pursue economics long-term by making course content more relevant and accessible. We conduct two confidential surveys with students enrolled in spring 2020 introductory economics courses at Columbia University and Barnard College. The two surveys, conducted at the start and end of the semester, ask students about their reasons for enrolling in the course, their interest in the field of economics and career aspirations, and their opinions about markets and traits important for success as an economist. The surveys also assess their knowledge of economic concepts and data literacy. We compare responses for student enrolled in courses that use CORE to those of students enrolled in courses that follow a more traditional curriculum. We complement our quantitative research with qualitative findings from focus groups conducted in spring 2020 and spring 2021.

Income Shocks and Consumer Response: Evidence from the 2018-19 US Government Shutdown

**Abstract:** The US federal government shutdown for 35 days from December 2018 to January 2019, the longest shutdown in the country's history. The shutdown caused a disruption in the administration of several federal benefit programs, including the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP). The disruption resulted in a positive liquidity shock to SNAP beneficiaries, who received some benefits earlier than scheduled. While providing slack in how beneficiaries could spend other income, the disruption potentially exacerbated the "end-of-cycle gap" that occurs when benefits run out before the end of the month. Using Nielsen Consumer Panel data, I study how consumption of SNAP-eligible goods responds to the positive liquidity shock in areas with low share vs. high share of SNAP beneficiaries.

Patient Cost Sharing and Prescription Drug Trends: Evidence from Japan

**Abstract:** This paper studies the impact of patient cost sharing on the number of drug prescriptions and on the overall costs of prescription drugs by exploiting a feature of the Japanese health care system, where an individual's coinsurance rate is determined primarily by their age. I contribute to the previous research by investigating heterogeneous effects due to patient sex and drug therapeutic class (two "essential" classes, cardiovascular and antibiotics, and two "non-essential" classes, vitamins and antihistamines). Using publicly available aggregate data, I find that for the whole sample of drugs, price elasticity of demand ranges from  $-0.42$  to  $-0.86$ , and price elasticity for medical spending ranges from  $-0.31$  to  $-0.67$ , depending on the model specification. These estimates stand in contrast to previous estimates of price elasticity of demand ( $-0.16$  to  $-0.2$ ) and spending ( $-0.2$ ), suggesting that patients have higher elasticity for prescription drugs than for other medical services. I also find that there are no heterogeneous effects by sex over the whole sample of drugs, but there are notable differences by sex for certain therapeutic classes of drugs. Finally, the data suggests that Japanese patients are more likely to be prescribed brand-name medications, but patients on generics may be more price sensitive to changes in patient cost sharing. Research on the topic has implications for designing more targeted government policy that could reduce health care costs, but more work is needed to assess patient health outcomes.

## Hospital Implementation of Work-Life Balance Programs and Nurse Stress, Work-Family Conflict, and Work Satisfaction in Ibaraki Prefecture

**Abstract:** The high nurse turnover rate is an acute issue for Japan's health care system. In the recent decades, the government has promoted the Child Care and Family Care Leave Law and the work-life balance (WLB) programs outlined in it as tools to alleviate workplace stress and retain workers. I conduct a cross-sectional study of hospitals and nurses in Ibaraki Prefecture to learn about the implementation of the WLB programs and factors associated with nurse stress and work satisfaction. I design and run two surveys: a survey of all hospitals in the prefecture and a follow-up survey of nurses at six of these hospitals. I do not find a strong association between the nurse turnover rate and WLB program implementation, WLB program use, or the prioritization of nurse WLB in the workplace. I do find that hospitals that place a higher priority on nurses' WLB are more likely to implement certain types of WLB programs and to report nurses using them. The nurse survey identifies correlated sources of stress for nurses. I also find that greater social support from supervisors and coworkers is strongly correlated with fewer workplace conflicts as well as lower scores on various stress measures.

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### **FELLOWSHIPS, GRANTS & HONORS**

2021-22	<i>Dissertation Fellowship</i> (Columbia University)
2020-21	<i>Wueller Teaching Award</i> , runner-up for best teaching assistant for undergraduate electives (Department of Economics, Columbia University)
2019-20	<i>Wueller Teaching Award</i> , best teaching assistant for undergraduate electives (Department of Economics, Columbia University)
2018-19	<i>Alison Hanson Jones Fellowship for Economics and History</i> (Graduate School of Arts and Sciences, Columbia University)
2018-19	<i>Wueller Teaching Award</i> , runner-up for best teaching assistant for principles of economics (Department of Economics, Columbia University)
2018	<i>Harriss Prize</i> , runner-up for best 2 <sup>nd</sup> year PhD paper (Department of Economics, Columbia University, for "Patient Cost Sharing and Prescription Drug Trends: Evidence from Japan")
2017-18	<i>Wueller Teaching Award</i> , best teaching assistant for principles of economics (Department of Economics, Columbia University)
2013-14	<i>Fulbright Research Fellowship</i> , University of Tsukuba
2013	<i>Phi Beta Kappa</i>
2013	<i>ACTR National Post-Secondary Russian Essay Contest</i> , Second Place (Heritage Learners, Level 3)
2012-13	<i>Tazuko Ajiro Monane Prize</i> (Harvard University, for outstanding achievement in the study of the Japanese language)
2009-10	<i>Harvard College Scholar</i>

## CONFERENCE & SEMINAR PRESENTATIONS

- 2021      *LACDev (Liberal Arts College Development) Conference, Oberlin College (discussant)*
- 2020      *Allied Social Sciences Association Annual Meeting, San Diego, CA (“Promoting Female Participation in Undergraduate Economics” paper session)*
- 2019      *CORE USA 2019 Workshop, Barnard College*
- 2018      *Undergraduate Women in Economics Conference, University of Illinois Urbana-Champaign*
- 2018      *Allied Social Sciences Association Annual Meeting, Philadelphia, PA (“Gender Issues in Economics” paper session)*

## CONFERENCE & SEMINAR ORGANIZING

- 2017-2020    *Student Research Breakfast, Department of Economics, Columbia University*
- 2020      *Diverse Economics Conference: People, Perspectives, Careers, with the Federal Reserve Bank of Richmond and Robins School of Business, University of Richmond*
- 2019      *Diverse Economics Conference: People, Perspectives, Careers, with the Federal Reserve Bank of Richmond and Robins School of Business, University of Richmond*
- 2019      *Young Economists Symposium, Department of Economics, Columbia University*
- 2018      *Undergraduate Women in Economics Conference, University of Illinois Urbana-Champaign*
- 2017      *Undergraduate Women in Economics Conference, Colorado State University*
- 2016      *Undergraduate Women in Economics Conference, University of Virginia*

## APPOINTMENTS

- Jan – May 2021      Research Assistant for Adam Sacarny, Columbia University
- Jan – May 2020      Research Assistant for CORE USA Project, Barnard College
- Aug 2014 – 2020      Project Manager, Undergraduate Women in Economics Challenge, for Claudia Goldin, National Bureau of Economic Research
- Jun – Jul 2012      Research Assistant for Kazuo Yamaguchi, Research Institute of Economy, Trade, and Industry (RIETI), Japan
- Jun – Aug 2011      Research Assistant for Claudia Goldin, Harvard University
- Jun – Aug 2011      Research Assistant for Nathan Nunn, Harvard University

## REFEREEING

- Journals:**            *Southern Economic Journal*
- Conferences:**      *Young Economists Symposium (2018, 2019, 2020)*

**TEACHING EXPERIENCE & TRAINING****Columbia University***Principles of Economics*

Instructor, Summer 2020

Teaching assistant, S2019 (with Prof. Brendan O'Flaherty)

Teaching assistant, S2018 (with Prof. Sunil Gulati)

*Economic Development of Japan*

Teaching assistant, F2020 (with Prof. David Weinstein)

Teaching assistant, F2019 (with Dr. Edward Lincoln)

Teaching assistant, F2018 (with Prof. David Weinstein)

Teaching assistant, F2017 (with Prof. David Weinstein)

**Columbia University Mailman School of Public Health***Analysis of Large Scale Data*

Teaching assistant, F2019 (with Prof. Adam Sacarny)

Teaching assistant, F2018 (with Prof. Adam Sacarny)

**Training**

Spring 2021

*Pedagogies of Race and Oppression Learning Community*, Columbia GSAS Office of Academic Diversity and Inclusion and Columbia's Center for Teaching and Learning

Spring 2021

*Inclusive Teaching Seminar*, Columbia's Center for Teaching and Learning

Summer 2018

*Innovative Teaching Summer Institute (ITSI)*, Columbia's Center for Teaching and Learning**SERVICE & MENTORING**

Spring 2021

Undergraduate Mentoring Program, Department of Economics, Columbia University

2018-2019

Association of Graduate Economics Students (AGES) President, Department of Economics, Columbia University

2017-2020

AGES 2<sup>nd</sup> year cohort co-representative

2017-2019

AGES Graduate Mentoring Program, Dept. of Economics, Columbia University

2016-2017

AGES 1<sup>st</sup> year cohort co-representative

Spring 2016

Non-Resident Tutor in Economics, Harvard University

**PROFESSIONAL AFFILIATIONS***National Economic Association, Undergraduate Women in Economics***PERSONAL****Citizenship**

USA, Russian Federation

**Languages**

Russian (native), English (native), Japanese (JLPT N2), French (conversational), Spanish (conversational)