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Curriculum Vitae Fall 2009

CHRISTINA MARSH

Personal Data

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Citizenship: USA

Major Fields of Concentration

Health Economics, Industrial Organization, Applied Econometrics

Education

<i>Degree</i>	<i>Field</i>	<i>Institution</i>	<i>Year</i>
Ph.D.	Economics	University of Minnesota (expected)	2010
B.A.	Economics <i>magna cum laude</i>	Cornell University	2003

Dissertation

Title: "Essays in Health Care Economics: Structural Approaches to Measuring Moral Hazard and Adverse Selection"

Dissertation Advisor: Professor Patrick Bajari and Professor Robert Town

Expected Completion: Summer 2010

References

Professor Patrick Bajari	(612) 625-8369 bajari@umn.edu	Department of Economics University of Minnesota 4-101 Hanson Hall
Professor Amil Petrin	(612) 625-0145 petrin@umn.edu	1925 Fourth Street South Minneapolis, MN 55455
Professor Thomas Holmes	(612) 625-4512 holmes@umn.edu	
Professor Robert Town	(612) 626-4683 rjtown@umn.edu	Health Services Research and Policy University of Minnesota 420 Delaware Street SE Minneapolis, MN 55455

Honors and Awards

- Summer 2008 Graduate Research Program Partnership Fellowship, University of Minnesota, Minneapolis, Minnesota.
- 2005 - 2006 *Distinguished Teaching Assistant*, Department of Economics, University of Minnesota, Minneapolis, Minnesota.

Teaching Experience

- Fall 2009 *Instructor*, Department of Economics, University of Minnesota, Minneapolis, Minnesota. Taught *Principles of Microeconomics*.
- 2005 - 2006 *Teaching Assistant*, Department of Economics, University of Minnesota, Minneapolis, Minnesota. Led recitation sections for *Principles of Microeconomics* and *Principles of Macroeconomics*.
- Spring 2003 *Teaching Assistant*, Industrial and Labor Relations College, Cornell University, Ithaca, New York. Led recitation sections for *Statistical Reasoning I*.

Research Experience

- Fall 2006 - present *Research Assistant*, Department of Economics, University of Minnesota, Minneapolis, Minnesota. Research Assistant to Professor Patrick Bajari.
- June 2006 *Research Assistant*, Center for Governmental Research, Rochester, New York. Research Assistant to Dr. Kent Gardner.
- July 2003 - June 2005 *Assistant Economist*, International Research Group, Federal Reserve Bank of New York, New York, New York. Assistant to Dr. James Harrigan and Dr. Rebecca Hellerstein.
- September 2001 - May 2003 *Research Assistant*, Policy Analysis and Management Department, Cornell University, Ithaca, New York. Research Assistant to Professor Dean Lillard.
- September 2000 - March 2001 *Research Assistant*, Political Sciences Department, Tufts University, Medford, Massachusetts. Research Assistant to Professor Kerry Chase.

Professional Experience

- July 2008 Consultant, The Boston Consulting Group, Singapore
- 2004 - 2005 Judge, Fed Challenge Program, Federal Reserve Bank of New York
- 2003 - 2004 Mentor, Economics and Finance Program, James Madison High School, Brooklyn, New York

Publications

- “Have US Import Prices Become Less Responsive to Changes in the Dollar?” with Rebecca Hellerstein and Dierdre Daly. *Federal Reserve Bank of New York Current Issues in Economics* 12 (6), September 2006.

Work in Progress

- “Recovering Elasticities in Health Expenditure Using Nonlinear Reimbursement,” November 2009 (Job Market Paper)
- “Moral Hazard, Adverse Selection and Health Expenditure: A Semiparametric Analysis,” with Patrick Bajari, Han Hong, and Ahmed Khwaja, September 2009
- “What Is the Government Buying with Health Care Subsidies? A Study of Hospice Care,” August 2009

Presentations

“Estimating Moral Hazard in Consumer Driven Health Plans ” presented at Federal Reserve Bank of New York, New York, New York, January 2009.

Computer Skills

MATLAB, Python, SAS, Stata, SPSS

Additional Training

CITA Human Subjects Training, HIPAA Training

Languages

English (native), French (Fluent)

Dissertation Abstract

U.S. health care costs are rising rapidly. Several recent initiatives attribute this to the fact that patients do not bear the full cost of their care. Measures which decrease reimbursement of patients' expenditures include high deductible plans, Health Savings Accounts (HSAs), and the Medicare Drug Plan “doughnut hole.” But how does health expenditure change in response to decreasing reimbursement rates? To answer this question, this paper develops an estimation method which takes advantage of pervasive nonlinear reimbursement in health insurance contracts, including all the aforementioned reform initiatives. This estimation method avoids the bias present in the previous literature by addressing the problem that nonlinearities cause expenditure and reimbursement rates to be simultaneously determined. Using a unique claims-level dataset of employer-sponsored health insurance, I find a tight range of local elasticities between -0.25 and -0.33 on the range of average U.S. spending. Finally, I use my estimates to conduct a counterfactual policy experiment measuring the inefficiency of full reimbursement, and find evidence of welfare loss due to overconsumption. The method developed here can be used on many important policies with nonlinear reimbursement, such as Medicare Parts A and B, which previous tools could not address.