[Date of submission]

Editors

*Journal of Health Economics*

Dear Editor:

I wish to submit an article for publication in the *Journal of Health Economics*, titled “Field Experiment Using Text Messages to Prevent Free-riding in the Japan Marrow Donor Program.” The paper was coauthored by Fumio Ohtake, Saiko Kurosawa, Kazuhiro Yoshiuchi, and Takahiro Fukuda.

This paper reports on a field experiment undertaken to test an information provision intervention with the goal of increasing the willingness to donate among donors registered in the Japan Marrow Donor Program. We believe that our study makes a significant contribution to the literature because only half of all patients registered with the Japan Marrow Donor Program receive allogeneic hematopoietic stem cell transplantation due to donors’ reluctance to donate. Thus, interventions that could increase willingness to donate are highly important. The results of our experiment indicate that providing information only affects donors of certain genders and ages and encourages behavioral change among younger donors with better transplant outcomes.

Further, we believe that this paper will be of interest to the readership of your journal because it focuses on interventions in the supply and utilization of health services that have economic repercussions. Further, our findings are applicable to donor programs globally.

This manuscript has not been published or presented elsewhere in part or in entirety and is not under consideration by another journal. All study participants provided informed consent, and the study design was approved by the appropriate ethics review board. We have read and understood your journal’s policies, and we believe that neither the manuscript nor the study violates any of these. There are no conflicts of interest to declare.

Thank you for your consideration. I look forward to hearing from you.

Sincerely,

Hiroki Kato

Hitotsubashi Institute for Advanced Study, Hitotsubashi University

2-1 Naka, Kunitachi, Tokyo 186-8601, Japan

+81-08-2213-5586

hkato.econ@r.hit-u.ac.jp