

# Rhys Llewellyn Thomas

---

HERC, Oxford Population Health  
University of Oxford, Old Road Campus  
Oxford, OX3 7LF

**Website:** <https://rhysllthomas.github.io/>  
**Email:** rhys.thomas@dph.ox.ac.uk  
**LinkedIn Profile:** [linkedin.com/in/rhysllewellynthomas](https://www.linkedin.com/in/rhysllewellynthomas)

I am a Senior Health Economics Researcher at the Health Economics Research Centre (HERC), University of Oxford, and a Fellow by Special Election at St Edmund Hall, University of Oxford, where I teach undergraduate courses in Economics. My research focuses on applied microeconometric analysis of health-related questions. My current work spans three broad areas: metascience, international comparisons of healthcare resource use, and patient behaviour and healthcare utilisation in the NHS. I have substantial teaching experience at undergraduate and postgraduate level, including Health Economics, Microeconomics, and quantitative methods courses. I am an Associate Fellow of the Higher Education Academy.

## Academic Positions

2025 - Present	Senior Health Economics Researcher (promotion) - HERC, University of Oxford
2024 - Present	Fellow by Special Election - St Edmund Hall, University of Oxford
2021 - Present	Associate Member, Department of Economics, University of Oxford
2024 - 2025	Health Economics Researcher - HERC, University of Oxford
2021 - 2023	Early Career Teaching and Research Fellow - St Edmund Hall, University of Oxford

## Education

2023	Advancing Teaching and Learning (Associate Fellow of Advanced HE) - University of Oxford
2017 - 2022	Ph.D Economics - University of Southampton
2016 - 2017	MSc. Economics (Distinction) - University of Southampton
2013 - 2016	BSc. Economics (First Class Honours) - University of Southampton

## Publications

**Thomas, R.L.**, Roope, L., Duch, R., Robinson, T., Zakharov, A., (2025) 'Lottery or Triage? Multi-country survey-based experiment evidence from the COVID-19 pandemic on public preferences for allocation of scarce medical resources.', *Medical Decision Making*.

Available at: <https://doi.org/10.1177/0272989X251367777>

Companion "*The Conversation*" article: ***Should we decide by lottery who gets a medical treatment first?*** ([link](#))

**Thomas, R.L.**, Millett, C., Sousa Soares, R., Hone, T., (2024) 'More Doctors, better health? A generalised synthetic control approach to estimating impacts of increasing doctors under Brazil's Mais Medicos Programme.', *Social Science and Medicine*.

Available at: <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.socscimed.2024.117222>

**Thomas, R.L.** and Mentzakis, E. (2024) ‘The direct and spillover effects of diabetes diagnosis on lifestyle behaviours’, *Health Economics*. Available at: <https://doi.org/10.1002/hec.4803>.

## Working Papers

**Thomas, R.L.**, P. M. Clarke, K. Emond, and A. Barnett, ‘Who Applies When Funding is Randomised? Partial Randomisation and Applicant Characteristics’, *Revise and Resubmit at ‘Research Policy’*.

**Thomas, R.L.**, L. Roope, R. Duch, P. Kotlarz, V. Kiparoglou, H. McShane, P. M. Clarke, ‘Is there sufficient global public willingness to fund resilience to future pandemics? Evidence from 16 countries’, *Under review*.

**Thomas, R.L.**, B. McConnell, E. Mentzakis, ‘From Screen to Script: Salience, Information, and Health-Seeking Responses to a Media Shock’, *First draft*.

## Teaching Experience

Nuffield Department of Population Health, University of Oxford

- Postgraduate:
  - Health Economics (2025 & 2026)

St Edmund Hall, University of Oxford

- Undergraduate:
  - Probability and Statistics (2022, 2023, 2024, 2025, & 2026)
  - Core Microeconomics (2021 & 2022)
  - Public Economics (2021 & 2022)
  - Labour Economics and Inequality (2023)

Lincoln College, University of Oxford

- Professional:
  - Challenges of Globalisation (2024)

University of Southampton

- Undergraduate:
  - Undergraduate Dissertation (2017, 2018, 2019 & 2020)
  - Applied Microeconomics 3 (2019 & 2020)
  - Quantitative Modelling in Economics (2019)
  - Foundations of Microeconomics (2017 & 2018)
  - Principles of Microeconomics (2017 & 2018)
- Postgraduate:
  - Health economics and policy (2020)
  - Masters Dissertation (2019 & 2020)

## Additional Experience

Department for Education - Higher Economic Assistant

December 2018 - April 2019

---

At the Department for Education I worked on two main projects:

- Timpson review of school exclusion - technical note:

The analysis aimed to estimate non-causal associations between a number of school and pupil characteristics and the probability of being excluded. Published report available at [this link](#).

- School-level factors associated with disadvantaged pupil performance: This project involved using statistical learning techniques to analyse the factors most associated with disadvantaged pupil performance.

## Additional Activities & Responsibilities

Funding: NHS Race and Health Observatory - CI (2026)

British Academy Partial Randomised Allocation Trial - CI (2025)

UKRI Metascience research grants - CI (£172,039.20) (2024)

University of Western Australia Research Collaboration Award - CI (2024)

University of Oxford OPEN Workshop (2024)

SABE: Workshop Support Programme (2024)

ESRC 1+3 Studentship (2016)

Conferences: International Health Economics Association Congress (2025)

Metascience Conference (2025)

PhD-EVS Seminar Series (2021)

Royal Economic Society Conference (2021)

XXV AIES National Conference (2020)\*

30th Congress of the European Economic Association (2020)

European Health Economics Association Conference (2020)\*

ALdE XXIII Applied Economics Meeting (2020)\*

ESRC South Coast DTP Final Year Conference (2019)

Economics PhD Workshop, University of Southampton (2018)

Family Finance Surveys User Conference (2017)

\*Conferences I was accepted to but was not able to attend due to the COVID-19 pandemic.

Presentations:	<p>Using partial randomisation to award research funding at The British Academy (2024)</p> <p>Oxford-OECD Symposium on data linkages, disease expenditure, and comparisons (2024)</p> <p>Nova School of Business and Economics (2023)</p> <p>Department of Applied Economics, HEC Montréal (2023)</p> <p>Academic Unit of Health Economics, University of Leeds (2022)</p> <p>Virtual Seminar on the Economics of Risky Health Behaviors, Cornell University (2021)</p> <p>Public Health Policy Evaluation Unit, Imperial College (2019)</p>
Referee Experience:	<p>Economic Modelling (2025)</p> <p>Social Science and Medicine (2024)</p> <p>PLOS ONE (2021 &amp; 2022)</p> <p>SSM - Population Health (2020)</p> <p>Heylion (2018)</p>
Administrative Responsibilities:	<p>NIHR Predoctoral fellowship Supervisor (2025 - Present)</p> <p>Health Economics Module (MSc GHSE) Co-lead (2025 - Present)</p> <p>HERC Internal Work-in-progress Seminar Series Organiser (2025 - Present)</p> <p>MSc Global Health Science and Epidemiology Admissions Shortlister (2025 - Present)</p> <p><i>Using partial randomisation to award research funding</i> workshop at The British Academy Organiser (2024)</p> <p><i>Oxford-OECD Symposium on data linkages, disease expenditure, and comparisons</i> Organiser (2024)</p> <p>Economics Organising Tutor (2022 - 2023)</p> <p>St Edmund Hall Sustainability Sub-Committee (2022 - 2023)</p> <p>Economics Sub-Faculty Committee (2021 - 2023)</p> <p>St Edmund Hall Tutorial Committee (2021 - 2023)</p> <p>Undergraduate Admissions for PPE and E&amp; M (2021 - 2023)</p> <p>Lead PPE Admissions Tutor (2022 - 2023)</p> <p>College Advisor to Postgraduate Students (2021 - Present)</p> <p>St Edmund Hall Economics Discussion Event Organiser (2021 - 2022)</p> <p>Internal PhD Seminar Series Organiser (2018 - 2020)</p> <p>Undergraduate Economics Programs Validation Student Representative (2020)</p> <p>1st Southampton Applied Workshop Co-organiser (2019)</p> <p>Postgraduate Economics Programs Validation Student Representative (2018)</p> <p>SCDTP Final Year Conference Organiser (2017)</p>

## **Other Competencies**

Languages: English (native), Welsh (native).

Software Skills: Stata (Advanced), L<sup>A</sup>T<sub>E</sub>X(Advanced), R Statistics (Intermediate).