JIANAN YANG

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EDUCATION

Ph.D. in Economics, University of California, San Diego, 2022 (expected)

Committee: Karthik Muralidharan (chair), Prashant Bharadwaj, Jeffrey Clemens, Ruixue Jia, Craig McIntosh, Paul Niehaus

M.A. in Economics, University of California, San Diego, 2017

B.A. in Economics, Renmin University of China, 2016

B.S. in Mathematics, Renmin University of China, 2016

REFERENCES

Karthik Muralidharan	UC San Diego	kamurali@ucsd.edu	(858) 534-2425
Jeffrey Clemens	UC San Diego	jeffclemens@ucsd.edu	(858) 534-5713
Ruixue Jia	UC San Diego	rxjia@ucsd.edu	(858) 534-5969
Paul Niehaus	UC San Diego	pniehaus@ucsd.edu	(858) 534-3190

FIELDS OF INTEREST

Development Economics, Health Economics

RELEVANT POSITIONS HELD

Research Assistant, Prof. Karthik Muralidharan and Prof. Paul Niehaus, Jun - Sep 2018 Research Assistant, Prof. Julian Betts, Jun - Sep 2017 & Jun - Sep 2018

FELLOWSHIPS, HONORS, AND AWARDS

Clive Granger Research Fellowship for the most promising graduate student research, UC San Diego, 2021 Teaching Assistant Excellence Award, UC San Diego, 2019-2020

C. Phil Fellowship, UC San Diego, 2019 - 2020

Graduate Summer Research Fellowship, UC San Diego, 2017

Regents Fellowship, UC San Diego, 2016–2017

China National Scholarship, Renmin University of China, 2014-2015

Principal's Fellowship for Student Exchange Program (to UCSD), Renmin University of China, 2014-2015

WORKING PAPERS

"Affordability versus Overuse: Evidence from a Prescription Drug Price Reduction in China" with Daixin He (Job Market Paper)

Abstract: Improving affordability while containing overuse is a core tension in pharmaceutical pricing. This paper evaluates this trade-off by studying a drug procurement program in China, which brought down the prices of 10 chronic condition drugs by an average of 78%. Using a difference-in-differences design with a set of comparable drugs as controls, we find that this improvement in affordability led to a significant increase in demand by uninsured patients, whose purchases of treated drugs increased by 28.4% more than the insured. This demand response came both from new and existing medication takers. Drug adherence was improved for the uninsured who had poorer adherence at baseline but overuse was not affected. Our findings suggest that the purchasing power of the government to negotiate down drug prices can significantly improve affordability for the uninsured without increasing overuse, at least in the case of chronic conditions which increasingly account for a large share of the disease burden in developing countries.

"The Impact of Self- or Social-regarding Messages: Experimental Evidence on Antibiotics Purchases in China" with Daixin He and Fangwen Lu

Abstract: We study two interventions that provide patients with information on antibiotic resistance through text messages in Beijing, China. A "self-health" intervention emphasizes the threat to one's own health and is found to have negligible effects. In contrast, a "social-health" intervention highlights the threat to society and is found to reduce antibiotic purchases by 17% without discouraging healthcare visits and other medicine purchases. Survey evidence shows social consequences are viewed graver but equally likely to occur, suggesting the perceived severity being a potential explanation. The messages were sent once every month for five months, and gradual decrease of the effect size is observed over time.

"The Relation between School Climate and Student Outcomes" with Dina Polichar, Julian Betts and Andrew C. Zau

Abstract: Using multiple years of student survey data from a large, urban school district, this study employed factor analysis to identify disparate, measurable aspects of school climate, which were then examined individually using probit models to determine the extent to which each is associated with the overall effect of a school on student academic outcomes. Differences among grade level, gender and racial/ethnic groups were also studied. Reliable, intuitive aspects of school climate can be identified from the data. These factors, to varying extents, can partially explain students' performance at a given school on our two measures of educational attainment.

TEACHING EXPERIENCE

Guest Lecturer for Applied Econometrics (ECN 209), Professor Alex Yu, Wake Forest University, Fall 2021

Teaching Assistant, UC San Diego

Introduction to Microeconomics (ECON 1), UCSD, Fall 2019, Winter 2020, Spring 2020, Fall 2020, Winter 2021

Principles of Macroeconomics (ECON 3), UCSD, Fall 2018, Spring 2018

Microeconomics A (ECON 100A), UCSD, Fall 2017, Winter 2018, Summer 2020, Spring 2021

Microeconomics C (ECON 100C), UCSD, Spring 2019 Econometrics C (ECON 120C), UCSD, Winter 2019

Behavioral Economics (ECON 142), UCSD, Fall 2017

PROFESSIONAL ACTIVITIES

Conference Presentations

2021 Pacific Conference for Development Economics (PacDev)

OTHER INFORMATION

Programming: Stata, R, MATLAB

Languages: English (Fluent), Mandarin (Native)