

Becky Staiger

CONTACT INFORMATION

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APPOINTMENTS

Stanford University, Stanford, CA

Postdoctoral Scholar, Center for Biomedical Informatics, School of Medicine, August 2021 –
Postdoctoral Scholar, Center for Health Policy/Primary Care and Outcomes Research, August
2019 – August 2021

EDUCATION

Yale University, New Haven, CT

Ph.D., Health Policy & Management (Concentration in Economics), 2019

Williams College, Williamstown, MA

B.A., Economics and English, 2009

PUBLICATIONS

Becky Staiger*, Anran Li*, Diane Alexander, and Molly Schnell. “Enrollment Brokers Did Not Increase Medicaid Enrollment, 2008–18.” *Health Affairs*. 2022.

Zack Cooper, Olivia Stiegman, Chima D. Ndumele, **Becky Staiger**, and Jonathan Skinner. “Geographical Variation in Health Spending Across the US Among Privately Insured Individuals and Enrollees in Medicaid and Medicare.” *JAMA Network Open*. 2022.

Becky Staiger. “Disruptions to the Patient-Provider Relationship and Patient Utilization and Outcomes: Evidence from Medicaid Managed Care.” *Journal of Health Economics*. 2022.

Katherine Piwnica-Worms, **Becky Staiger**, Joseph S. Ross, Marjorie S. Rosenthal, and Chima D. Ndumele. “Effects of Forced Disruption in Medicaid Managed Care on Children with Asthma.” *Health Services Research*. 2021.

Chima D. Ndumele, **Becky Staiger**, Joseph S. Ross, and Mark J. Schlesinger. “Network Optimization and the Continuity of Physicians in Medicaid Managed Care.” *Health Affairs*. 2018.

*Indicates shared first authorship.

WORKING PAPERS

Provider Opioid Prescribing Behaviors and Opioid Use in Medicaid (with Laurence Baker and Tina Hernandez-Boussard)

Abstract: *Liberal prescription of opioids is widely believed to have contributed to the ongoing epidemic of opioid misuse and related harms within the United States and elsewhere. Policies aimed at curbing the epidemic have focused on encouraging providers to adopt stricter opioid prescribing behaviors. However, the extent to which the association between providers’ opioid prescribing behaviors and their patients’ opioid use reflects a causal influence of behavior versus patient-provider sorting is unclear. Using Medicaid claims data for three states from 2016-2021, we use provider exits from Medicaid to evaluate how enrollees with chronic pain are affected by a switch to a lower- or higher-prescribing provider. We find that among patients with prior opioid use, switching to lower intensity physicians leads to as much as a 40% decrease in opioid use, with evidence of increased hospitalizations. While we observe a 15% increase in opioid use among opioid-naïve enrollees who switch to more intensely prescribing providers, the health effects are less clear. Our findings are similar when using an instrumental variables approach to correct for the potential endogeneity of the destination provider’s prescribing intensity.*

Physician Group Influences on Treatment Intensity and Health: Evidence from Physician Switchers, NBER Working Paper No. 29613 (with Joseph Doyle)

Abstract: Treatment intensity varies remarkably across physicians, yet the key drivers are not well understood. Meanwhile, the organization of healthcare is undergoing a secular transformation as physicians increasingly work in groups. This paper tests whether physicians' group affiliation matters for practice styles and patient health. Using Medicare inpatient claims data, we compare these outcomes before and after physicians switch between groups of varying treatment intensity while remaining in the same hospital to control for practice setting. Event studies show that internists who join more-intensive groups immediately increase their own treatment intensity, with an elasticity of approximately 0.3; the opposite is found for internists who switch to groups that are less intensive. This change in Medicare spending largely stems from greater quantities of care provided, with some evidence of a change in coding behavior. We do not detect a change in health outcomes, suggesting that treatment intensity induced by group affiliation may not be productive.

RESEARCH IN
PROGRESS

“Changes in Medicaid Enrollment During the COVID-19 Pandemic Across Six States” (with Ran Sun, Atonia Chan, Laurence Baker, and Tina Hernandez-Boussard)

“Targeted Opioid Prescribing Behavior and Patient Outcomes: Evidence from Post-Operative Medicaid Enrollees with Chronic Conditions” (with Catherine Curtin and Tina Hernandez-Boussard)

“Bright Spots for Youth Health Equity” (with Lee Sanders and Sara Singer)

“Domestic Mass Shootings and Veteran Mental Health” (with Valentin Bolotnyy, Shira Gavriella Winter, and Jarrod Marks)

“The Effect of Mandatory Medicaid Managed Care Enrollment on Healthcare Utilization and Health Among Aged and Disabled Enrollees” (with Kate Bundorf, Mark Duggan, and Gina Li)

“Identifying Trends and Racial/Ethnic Disparities in Healthcare Utilization, Access, and Health Outcomes Among Supplemental Security Income Recipients” (with Jessica Van Parys)

“The Impact of Gender Concordant Patient-Provider Relationships on Health Care Utilization and Outcomes in Vulnerable Populations: Evidence from Medicaid Managed Care”

“The Effects of Access to Abortion Clinics on Disadvantaged Women's Health: Evidence from Medicaid Claims Data” (with Caitlin Myers and Maya Rossin-Slater)

GRANTS

Identifying Trends and Disparities in Healthcare Utilization, Access, and Health Outcomes Among Racial/Ethnic Minority Supplemental Security Income Recipients

Social Security Administration-National Bureau of Economic Research Retirement and Disability Research Center/NB22-14, 2021 - 2022

Principal Investigator: Nicole Maestas

Role: Project Leader

Advancing Knowledge Discovery for Postoperative Pain Management

National Library of Medicine, Aug. 2021 -

Principal Investigator: Tina Hernandez-Boussard

NRSA Institutional Health Services Research Training Program

Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality, Aug. 2019 - Aug. 2021

Principal Investigators: Laurence C. Baker and Douglas K. Owens

P01-AG019783: Causes and Consequences of Health Care Intensity

National Institute on Aging/National Institutes of Health, Oct. 2016 - Present
Principal Investigator: Jonathan Skinner

NRSA Predoctoral Fellowship

Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality, Jul. 2016 - 2018
Principal Investigator: Ingrid Nembhard

T32 Yale Training Program in Addiction, Economics and Policy

National Institute on Drug Abuse, Aug. 2013 - Jul. 2016
Principal Investigator: Jody L. Sindelar

TEACHING AND
ACADEMIC SERVICE **Stanford University**
Instructor

Empirical Methods in Public Policy; Spring 2021 (with Gopi Shah Goda)

Yale University

Teaching Fellow

Comparative Health Systems; Spring 2016, 2017, 2018, 2019

Teaching Fellow

Introduction to Health Policy and Health Systems; Fall 2016, 2017, 2018

Teaching Fellow

Maternal-Child Public Health and Nutrition; Fall 2015

Teaching Fellow

Microeconomics for Health Policy & Management; Spring 2015

Teaching Fellow

Health Policy and Health Systems; Fall 2014

CONFERENCES AND
INVITED SEMINARS *AcademyHealth Annual Research Meeting, American Economic Association Annual Meeting, Association for Public Policy Analysis & Management, Medicaid Insights Colloquium Stanford Biomedical Informatics Colloquium* **2022 – 2023**

AcademyHealth Annual Research Meeting, American Society of Health Economists Annual Conference, Bureau of Economic Analysis, Social Security Administration **2021 – 2022**

AcademyHealth Annual Research Meeting, American Society of Health Economists Annual Conference, Association for Public Policy Analysis & Management **2020 – 2021**

American Economic Association Annual Meeting, American Society of Health Economists Annual Conference (cancelled) **2019 – 2020**

	<i>AcademyHealth Annual Research Meeting, American Society of Health Economists Annual Conference</i>	2018 – 2019
	<i>American Society of Health Economists Annual Conference</i>	2015 – 2016
PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE	The Dartmouth Institute , Lebanon, NH <i>Senior Technical Research Programmer/Analyst</i> <i>Research Assistant to Professor Jonathan Skinner</i>	2019 – 2022 2016 – 2019
	Yale University , New Haven, CT <i>Research Assistant to Professor Chima Ndumele</i>	2016 – 2019
	National Bureau of Economic Research , Cambridge, MA <i>Research Assistant to Professor Joseph Doyle</i>	2012 – 2013
	Analysis Group , Washington, DC <i>Analyst</i>	2011 – 2012
	Federal Reserve Board of Governors , Washington, DC <i>Research Assistant</i>	2009 – 2011
REFeree EXPERIENCE	<i>Health Economics, Journal of Health Economics, Journal of Policy Analysis and Management, Management Science, RAND Journal of Economics</i>	