

Chase S. Eck

Department of Economics
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EDUCATION

The University of Arizona

Ph.D. in Economics

Fields: Health Economics, Labor Economics

M.A. in Economics

Tucson, AZ

Expected: June 2021

January 2018

Northwestern University

B.A. in Economics and Mathematical Methods in the Social Sciences

B.S. in Mathematics

Certificate in Managerial Analytics, Kellogg School of Management

Evanston, IL

June 2014

GRANTS, FELLOWSHIPS, AND AWARDS

National Science Foundation Doctoral Dissertation Research Improvement Grant (\$24,355)	2020
Eller Center for Management Innovations in Healthcare Research Grant (\$5,000)	2020
Graduate and Professional Student Council REAP Grant (\$1,500)	2019
Ed Zajac Prize for the best third year paper (departmental award)	2019
Steve Manos Prize for best second year paper (departmental award)	2018
Thomas R. Brown Fellowship	2016
Highest Order of Excellence at Northwestern University	2014

RESEARCH

Dissertation Chapters

“Call the (Certified Nurse) Midwife: the Effect of Scope-of-Practice Laws on Hospital Costs and Patient Choice” (Job Market Paper)

The high cost of health-care is a major driver of high medical spending in the United States. Reforming healthcare labor markets is an understudied and increasingly common cost-based intervention. To shed light on the effects of such reforms I use plausibly exogenous variation in the strictness of Scope-of-Practice laws for Certified Nurse Midwives (CNMs). Half of all states have relaxed their SOP laws to allow CNMs to practice and prescribe independently of a physician. I estimate the effect of granting CNMs full independence on hospital facility costs using administrative data from the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS) and inpatient discharge records from the Healthcare Cost and Utilization Project (HCUP). Using a two-way fixed-effects model I find that allowing CNMs to practice independently substantially reduces hospital facility costs per birth and the use of intensive procedures, such as cesarean sections. These cost reductions are concentrated in hospitals that are well-positioned to integrate CNMs into their practice. Using a structural choice model, I decompose the overall effect of the policy into savings generated from increased hospital efficiency and savings due to

changing selection of patients into hospitals. I find that the savings are primarily driven by increased hospital efficiency for low-risk patients and higher-risk patients select into higher-cost hospitals after the law change. These effects are attenuated by market concentration and a high density of OBGYNs.

“The Effect of Electronic Benefit Transfer Cards on the Food Consumption of SNAP Recipients”, *under review*.

The Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) provides food assistance to nearly 44 million Americans each year. I document a substantial increase in the program’s ability to stimulate food consumption from 1990 to 2010, as measured by the marginal propensity to consume food (MPCf) out of SNAP. I provide the first evidence for a mechanism driving this increase: the transition from paper coupons to Electronic Benefit Transfer (EBT) cards. Using plausibly exogenous variation over states and time I estimate that the introduction of EBT doubles the MPCf out of SNAP and accounts for 25 percent of its observed increase.

“Adverse Life Events and Intergenerational Transfers,” with Jessamyn Schaller

While there has been broad interest in the direct effects of major life events on older households that experience them, little attention has been paid to the intergenerational transmission of those effects—how negative shocks in parents’ households affect the outcomes of their adult children—or to the role that grown children play in helping their parents to recover from adverse events. We use regression and event study approaches to examine within-family changes in monetary transfers and informal care following wealth loss, involuntary job displacement, spousal death, and health shocks in retirement-aged households. We find that giving to adult children is responsive to changes in parents’ wealth and earned income. We document large reductions in the likelihood of making financial transfers to children following wealth loss and job displacement, particularly in households with low accumulated wealth. We also find that parents increase their transfers following spousal death and reduce them with the onset of disability or poor health. We find that upstream transfers are also responsive to life events—children, particularly those with low-wealth parents, increase their financial transfers and in-kind assistance following adverse shocks in their parents’ households.

Published Papers

“The “Fixed” Pie Perception and Strategy in Dyadic versus Multiparty Negotiations” with Molly Kern, Laurie Weingart, and Jeanne Brett. *In Press*, Organizational Behavior and Human Decision Processes.

“Misclassification error when identifying job stayers in the Current Population Survey.” *Economics Bulletin* 38, no. 2 (2018): 1077-1082.

Work in Progress

“Why does SNAP improve infant health? Evidence from the EBT rollout”

“Evaluating care coordination initiatives in an outpatient setting”

Presentations

2020: Indiana University; The University of Arizona

2019: ASHEcon 2019; The University of Arizona Labor Brownbag

Research Assistant

Prof. Jessamyn Schaller, University of Arizona	Summer 2018 & 2019
Prof. Diane Schanzenbach, Northwestern University	Summer 2013
Prof. Jeanne Brett, Northwestern University	Fall 2011–Spring 2014

TEACHING EXPERIENCE

Sole Instructor of Record

Econ 481: Economics of Wage Determination	Fall 2019
Econ 300: Microeconomic Analysis for Business Decisions (Online)	Winter 2018, Summer 2019, & Summer 2020
Econ 300: Microeconomic Analysis for Business Decisions (In-Person)	Summer 2018
Econ 200: Basic Economic Issues (Online)	Winter 2017 & Spring 2018

Teaching Assistant

Econ 550: EMBA Business Strategy	Fall 2020
Econ 200: Basic Economic Issues (Online)	Fall 2020
Econ 200: Basic Economic Issues (Online)	Spring 2020
Econ 325: Historical Development of Financial and Economic Institutions	Spring 2019
Econ 460: Industrial Organization	Fall 2018 & Spring 2019
Econ 323: Economics of Sports	Fall 2018
Econ 300: Microeconomic Analysis for Business Decisions	Fall 2017
Econ 200: Basic Economic Issues	Spring 2017
Econ 150: An Economics Perspective	Fall 2016 & Fall 2017

PROFESSIONAL AND INSTITUTIONAL SERVICE

Organizer, Economics Graduate Student Workshop Series	2017–2020	Institute Director for UA
Graduate and Professional Student Council	2017–2018	
Chair of The Undergraduate Budget Priorities Committee	2011–2014	
Member of the search committee for Northwestern's CFO	2014	
Member of the executive committee of the Norris Student Center Renovation study	2014	
Fellow - Northwestern Chapter of the Roosevelt Institute	2011–2013	

WORK EXPERIENCE

Associate at TGG Group	9/2014 - 8/2016
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Worked under the direction of Daniel Kahneman to design and build a behaviorally-informed evaluation and compensation system for a Fortune 50 company• Worked under the direction of Daniel Kahneman and Steve Levitt to redesign and build an insurance sales website for a large insurer, focusing on improved choice architecture• Developed materials for a world-wide, research-based negotiation training for a Fortune 50 company	