Claire Boone

UC Berkeley School of Public Health
2121 Berkeley Way West
Berkeley, CA, USA 94704

+1 (510) 688-4269
cboone@berkeley.edu
claireboone.github.io

RESEARCH AREAS

Health economics, health policy, behavioral economics, behavioral science, impact evaluation, clinical decision-making

EDUCATION

Ph.D. Health Policy, Health Economics, University of California, Berkeley 2022

MPH Epidemiology & Biostatistics, University of California, Berkeley   2017

BA&Sc Biology & Economics, McGill University   2013

REFERENCES

Paul Gertler, Professor, Haas School of Business, University of California, Berkeley. E-mail: gertler@berkeley.edu

Ziad Obermeyer, Associate Professor, School of Public Health, University of California, Berkeley. E-mail: zobermeyer@berkeley.edu

Jonathan Kolstad, Associate Professor, Haas School of Business and Department of Economics, University of California, Berkeley. E-mail: jkolstad@berkeley.edu

Ulrike Malmendier, Professor, Haas School of Business and Department of Economics, University of California, Berkeley. E-mail: ulrike@berkeley.edu

JOB MARKET PAPER

Title: **The Role of Discretion in Clinical Decision Making: Evidence from Thresholds**

Summary: When a decision maker has discretion, such as a worker reporting their taxable income, threshold-based rules or policies are known to distort behavior. This has not been studied in the context of medicine, where thresholds guide many important diagnosis and treatment decisions. Using bunching estimation & data from over 600,000 primary care visits in Chile I study how providers make diagnostic and treatment decisions for hypertension, defined as blood pressure $\geq 140/90$ mmHg. Importantly, blood pressure is a noisy measure of risk and often over-stated when measured in clinic. I find a large behavioral response to the diagnostic threshold, suggesting providers use their discretion to re-categorize some positive tests as negatives. Here, the behavioral response leads to a more accurate classification of patients according to cardiovascular risk. Last, I find evidence suggesting providers use the representative heuristic to distinguish between true and false positives.

WORKING PAPERS

Can a private health sector engagement program with social health insurance encourage pro-poor outcomes? Evidence from an impact evaluation in Kenya. (with P Gertler, J Gruber, & A Kwan).

SELECT WORK IN PROGRESS

The Role of Appointment Reminders in the Management of Chronic Disease. (with P Celhay, P Gertler, & T Gracner).

Who gets diagnosed with type 2 diabetes? (with P Geldseltzer)

The Long-term Health Impact of In-Utero Exposure to Excessive Intake of Sugar. (with P Gertler & T Gracner)

Measuring behavioral biases in physicians: a standardized patient experiment in Rwanda (with P Gertler & A Stiney-Wellsjo)

Increasing the intensity of physical education reduces student enrollment: evidence from synthetic difference-in-differences (with N Perales & J Wang)

PUBLICATIONS **Do private providers give patients what they demand, even if it is inappropriate? A randomised study using unannounced standardised patients in Kenya**. *BMJ Open* 2022 (with P Gertler, A Kwan, & G Sulis)

How scheduling systems with automated appointment reminders improve health clinic efficiency *Journal of Health Economics* 2022 and *NBER Working Paper 28166* (with P Celhay, T Gracner, P Gertler, & J Rodriguez)

StayWell at Home: A Text Messaging Intervention to Counteract Depression and Anxiety during COVID-19 Social Distancing. *JMIR Mental Health* 2021. (with A Aguilera, C Figueroa, R Hernandez-Ramos et al.)

Proximate determinants of tuberculosis in Indigenous peoples worldwide: a systematic review. *Lancet Global Health* 2019. (with M Cormier, K Schwartzman, N'Diaye D et al.)

Zika: A scourge in urban slums. *PLOS Neglected Tropical Diseases* 2017. (with R Snyder, C Cardoso, L Riley et al.)

Exploring genetic suppression interactions on a global scale. *Science* 2016. (with J van Leeuwen, C Pons, J Mellor et al.)

POLICY REPORTS **African Health Markets for Equity Impact Evaluation** (with D Contreras, R Cuckovich, P Gertler, J Gruber, A Kwan, & N Perales)

The Impact of SMS Appointment Reminders on Patient Health (with P Celhay, P Gertler, & T Gracner)

Educate! Evaluation: Four-year Follow-up Report (with D Carney, L Chioda, P Gertler, D Contreras, A Jager, & A Kwan)

PRESENTA-TIONS **2021**: American Society of Health Economists (ASHEcon), International Health Economics Association (iHEA), The People Lab at UC Berkeley
2020: Conference on Health IT and Analytics (CHITA)

RESEARCH EXPERIENCE	**The Sweet Life: the Long-Term Effects of a Sugar-Rich Diet**, Research assistant for Dr. Paul Gertler, & Dr. Tadeja Gracner (2020-present) **African Health Markets for Equity**, Research assistant for Dr. Paul Gertler (2019-2020) **Educate! Soft Skills and Entrepreneurship for Youth in Uganda**, Research assistant for Dr. Laura Chioda & Dr. Paul Gertler (2017-2019)
TEACHING EXPERIENCE	**Behavioral Science** UC Berkeley Goldman School of Public Policy, graduate level. Teaching assistant for Professor Elizabeth Linos [In progress, Spring 2022]. **Epidemiological Methods I**, UC Berkeley School of Public Health, graduate level. Teaching assistant for Professor Sandra McCoy, Fall 2017. Average rating 5.98/7 **Introduction to Economics**, UC Berkeley Economics Department, undergraduate level. Teaching assistant for Professor Martha Olney Fall 2016. Av. rating 5.95/7 **Introduction to Economics**, UC Berkeley Economics Department, undergraduate level. Teaching assistant for Professor Brad DeLong Spring 2016. Av. rating 6.51/7

AWARDS

The Berkeley Center on the Economics and Demography of Aging Pilot grant	2021
UC Berkeley Institute for International Studies, Summer research fellowship	2019
UC Berkeley Center for Latin American Studies travel grant	2019
USAID Global Development Fellow	2018
Tinker Foundation Latin America Travel Grant	2018
Center for Global Public Health Summer Research Fellow	2016, 2018
Block Grant for highest GPA in Master's program	2017
UC Berkeley School of Public Health Alumni Association Award	2017
Foreign Language and Area Studies Summer Fellow	2016
McGill University Dean's Honor List for GPA in top 10% of students	2013

SERVICE

Mentor, Getting into Grad School, UCB Office for Graduate Diversity	2020-2021
Mentor, Undergraduate Research Apprentice Program at UC Berkeley	2019-2022
Health Policy Graduate Admissions Committee	2019
Member, Economists for Equity at UC Berkeley	2017-present

OTHER

Languages: R, Stata, French, Spanish
Citizenship: United States and Canada

————————