

<b>Contact information</b>	<b>María Alejandra Benítez Ureta</b>
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<b>EDUCATION</b>	
2021- to date	<b>Wharton School - University of Pennsylvania.</b> PhD student in Health Care Management and Economics. Committee: Alex Olssen, Claudio Lucarelli, Diane Alexander, Juan Pablo Atal.
2015-2016	<b>Pontificia Universidad Católica de Chile (PUC).</b> M.A. in Economics. Degree thesis: “Liquidity of income payment and undesirable effects: Evidence from Chile”. Approved with maximum distinction.
2011-2015	B.A. in Business and Economics
<b>RESEARCH</b>	
<b>Work in progress</b>	<p>“Waiting Time and Demand for Elective Surgery: Evidence from Chile”. <b>Job Market Paper.</b></p> <p>“The Impact of Information Systems on Experts’ Decisions: Evidence from Physicians”, with Jorge Alé-Chilet, Juan Pablo Atal, and Martín González.</p>
<b>Publications</b>	
2025	“Hospital Consolidation and Quality: Opening the Behavioral Black Box,” with Robert Burns, Mark Pauly, and Michael Sielski. <i>Science and Medicine</i> , 386: 118593.
2025	“Does Hospital Consolidation Promote Quality? Organizational and Strategic Issues,” With Robert Burns, Mark Pauly, and Michael Sielski. <i>Accepted in Health Care Management Review (HCMR)</i> .
2025	“Hospital Mergers and Quality: Lessons from a Recent Antitrust Case,” with Robert Burns, Mark Pauly, and Michael Sielski. <i>Accepted in Antitrust Chronicle</i> .
2020	“Responses to COVID-19 in five countries of Latin America,” with Carolina Velasco, Ana Rita Sequeira, Josefa Henríquez, Flavio Meneses, and Francesco Paolucci. <i>Health Policy and Technology</i> , 9(4): 525-59.
<b>Awards</b>	
2024	Global Initiative Research Program Award from The Wharton School.
<b>EMPLOYMENT</b>	
2020-2021	<b>Ministry of Finance, Government of Chile.</b> Advisor in the Department of Social Policy.
2018-2020	<b>Centro de Estudios Públicos (Center for Public Studies).</b> Research assistant. Field: Health policy.
2017	<b>Impacta RSE Consulting.</b> Project coordinator. Impact evaluation of social investment projects.
<b>ACADEMIC EXPERIENCE</b>	
2021-2025	TA in Proseminar in Health Economics: Models and Methods (Prof. Guy David), Economics and Finance of Health Care Delivery (Prof. Alex Olssen).
2022-2025	RA for profs. Diane Alexander, Mark Pauly, and Alex Olssen <b>Wharton School - University of Pennsylvania</b>
2024	RA for Prof. Robert Burns. Analysis of hospital consolidation in North Carolina for the U.S. Federal Trade Commission.
2013 - 2016	RA for Profs. José Tessada ( <b>PUC</b> ) and Julio Riutort. <b>Universidad Adolfo Ibáñez</b> , and EH Clio Lab, Economics Institute (PUC).

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**BOOK CHAPTERS**

- 2019 “Health inequalities: Gap in access and utilization between locals and immigrants” (in Spanish), with Carolina Velasco. *In Isabel Aninat and Rodrigo Vergara (editors): Immigration in Chile: A multidimensional view. Santiago, Chile: Fondo de Cultura Económica.*”

**PROFESSIONAL  
ACTIVITIES****Conferences & seminars**

- 2025 American Society of Health Economists (ASHEcon) annual conference (poster session).  
2024 VI Alumni Workshop UC, 13th Wharton-INSEAD Doctoral Consortium.  
2022 ASHEcon annual conference.  
2021 Latin American and Caribbean Economic Association (LACEA) annual meeting

**NON-REFEREED  
PUBLICATIONS**

- 2019 “Lacking health insurance: international immigrants in Chile)”. In: Migración y salud. *Cuadernos Médicos Sociales Vol. 58 N°4*. Colegio Médico de Chile (A.G.).
- 2020 “Coronavirus: health and economics precedents for discussion”, with Carolina Velasco and Rodrigo Vergara. *Puntos de referencia N° 532*. Centro de Estudios Públicos.
- 2020 “Trends in Covid-19 deaths”, with Adolfo Fuentes. *Puntos de referencia N° 531*. Centro de Estudios Públicos.
- 2019 “Regulating drugs: caution at adverse effects”. *Puntos de referencia N°515*. Centro de Estudios Públicos.
- 2019 “Out of pocket health expenditure: a look at drug spending”, with Andrés Hernando and Carolina Velasco. *Puntos de referencia N°502*. Centro de Estudios Públicos.
- 2018 “Analysis of out of pocket health expenditure in Chile: Analysis of expenditure variations between 2012 and 2016”, with Andrés Hernando and Carolina Velasco. *Puntos de referencia N°491*. Centro de Estudios Públicos.
- 2018 “Household budget survey and health expenditure: a first look”, with Andrés Hernando and Carolina Velasco. *Puntos de referencia N° 484*. Centro de Estudios Públicos.

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**REFeree CONTRIBUTION**

- Health Policy and Technology; Plos One; Población y Salud en Mesoamérica.

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Languages **Spanish** native, **English** advanced.