

Contact information	<p align="center">María Alejandra Benítez Ureta</p> <p>E-mail: mbenitez@wharton.upenn.edu Website: https://alejandrabenitezu.com/</p>
EDUCATION	
2021- to date	<p>Wharton School - University of Pennsylvania. PhD student in Health Care Management and Economics. Committee: Alex Olssen, Claudio Lucarelli, Diane Alexander, Juan Pablo Atal.</p>
2015-2016	<p>Pontificia Universidad Católica de Chile (PUC). M.A. in Economics. Degree thesis: “Liquidity of income payment and undesirable effects: Evidence from Chile”. Approved with maximum distinction.</p>
2011-2015	B.A. in Business and Economics
RESEARCH	
Work in progress	
	“Waiting Time and Demand for Elective Surgery: Evidence from Chile”. Job Market Paper.
	“The Impact of Information Systems on Experts’ Decisions: Evidence from Physicians”, with Jorge Alé-Chilet, Juan Pablo Atal, and Martín González.
Publications	
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.
Awards	
2024	Global Initiative Research Program Award from The Wharton School.
EMPLOYMENT	
2020-2021	Ministry of Finance, Government of Chile. Advisor in the Department of Social Policy.
2018-2020	Centro de Estudios Públicos (Center for Public Studies). Research assistant. Field: Health policy.
2017	Impacta RSE Consulting. Project coordinator. Impact evaluation of social investment projects.
ACADEMIC EXPERIENCE	
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 Wharton School - University of Pennsylvania
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 (PUC) and Julio Riutort. Universidad Adolfo Ibáñez , and EH Clio Lab, Economics Institute (PUC).

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.

REFeree CONTRIBUTION

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

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