

MARK A. SHEPARD

CURRICULUM VITAE

John F. Kennedy School of Government
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ACADEMIC EMPLOYMENT

Harvard University, Kennedy School of Government
Associate Professor (without tenure), 2022 – present
Assistant Professor, 2016 – 2022

National Bureau of Economic Research (NBER)
Post-Doctoral Fellow, Aging and Health Economics, 2015-2016

ACADEMIC AFFILIATIONS

National Bureau of Economic Research (NBER)
Faculty Research Fellow, 2015—present

RESEARCH FIELDS

Health Economics, Public Economics, Industrial Organization

EDUCATION

Harvard University
Ph.D. in Economics, 2015
Dissertation: “Essays on Health Insurance and Annuities”
Advisers: David Cutler, Ariel Pakes, Jeffrey Liebman

Harvard College
A.B. in Applied Mathematics, *summa cum laude*, June 2008

OTHER PAST EMPLOYMENT

Brookings Institution (Washington, D.C.)
Research Assistant to Mark McClellan at the Engelberg Center for Health Care Reform, 2008-09

ACADEMIC PAPERS

Working Papers

“Adverse Selection (un)Natural Monopoly in Insurance Markets” (*with Timothy Layton and Edward Kong*) ([Current Draft](#))
Reject & Resubmit, Quarterly Journal of Economics

“Unobserved Heterogeneity, State Dependence, and Health Plan Choices,” 2022 (*with Ariel Pakes, Jack Porter, and Sophie Calder-Wang*). ([Current draft](#); [NBER Working Paper #29025](#))
Reject & Resubmit, American Economic Review

Publications/Forthcoming

Economics Journals

Shepard, Mark, & Myles Wagner. (2025). “Do ordeals work for selection markets? Evidence from health insurance auto-enrollment.” *American Economic Review*, 115(3), 772-822. (Links: [Publication](#); [Final WP](#); [NBER Working Paper](#)).

Kreider, Amanda R., Timothy J. Layton, Mark Shepard, and Jacob Wallace. “Adverse selection and network design under regulated plan prices: Evidence from Medicaid.” *Journal of Health Economics* 97 (2024): 102901. (Links: [Publication](#); [Final WP](#); [NBER Working Paper #30719](#))

Baicker, Katherine, Amitabh Chandra, and Mark Shepard. 2023. “Achieving Universal Health Insurance Coverage in the United States: Addressing Market Failures or Providing a Social Floor?” *Journal of Economic Perspectives* 37(2): 99-122. (Links: [Published version](#); [NBER Working Paper](#))

Geruso, Michael, Timothy Layton, Grace McCormack, and Mark Shepard. 2023. “The Two Margin Problem in Insurance Markets.” *Review of Economics and Statistics* 105 (2): 237-257. (Links: [Published version](#); [NBER Working Paper](#))

Shepard, Mark, and Ethan Forsgren. 2023. “Do Insurers Respond to Active Purchasing? Evidence from the Massachusetts Health Insurance Exchange.” *Journal of Risk and Insurance* 90(1): 9-31. (Links: [Published version](#); [Final draft](#))

Shepard, Mark. 2022. “Hospital Network Competition and Adverse Selection: Evidence from the Massachusetts Health Insurance Exchange.” *American Economic Review* 112 (2): 578-615. (Links: [Publication](#); [Accepted Version](#); [NBER Working Paper Version](#))

McIntyre, Adrianna, Mark Shepard, and Myles Wagner. 2021. “Can Automatic Retention Improve Health Insurance Market Outcomes?” *American Economic Association, Papers & Proceedings*, 111: p. 560-66. (Links: [Publication](#), [NBER Working Paper](#))

Jaffe, Sonia and Mark Shepard. 2020. “Price-Linked Subsidies and Imperfect Competition in Health Insurance.” *American Economic Journal: Economic Policy* 12(3): 279-311. (Links: [Publication](#); [NBER WP](#))

Finkelstein, Amy, Nathaniel Hendren, and Mark Shepard. 2019. “Subsidizing health insurance for low-income adults: Evidence from Massachusetts.” *American Economic Review* 109, no. 4: 1530-1567. (Links: [Publication](#); [Final draft](#); [NBER WP](#))

Ho, Kate, Ariel Pakes, and Mark Shepard. “The evolution of health insurer costs in Massachusetts, 2010–2012.” *Review of Industrial Organization* 53, no. 1 (2018): 117-137. (Links: [Publication](#); [Final draft](#); [NBER WP](#))

Health Policy Journals

McIntyre, Adrianna, Mark Shepard, and Timothy Layton. 2024. “Small Marketplace Premiums Pose Financial and Administrative Burdens: Evidence from Massachusetts, 2016–17.” *Health Affairs* 43 (1). (Link: [Published version](#))

Baicker, Katherine, Amitabh Chandra, and Mark Shepard (2023). “A Different Framework to Achieve Universal Coverage in the US.” *JAMA Health Forum* 2023; 4(2):e230187. doi:10.1001/jamahealthforum.2023.0187. (Link: [Published version](#))

Kong, Ed, Mark Shepard, and Adrianna McIntyre (2022). “Turnover in Zero-Premium Status Among Health Insurance Marketplace Plans Available to Low-Income Enrollees.” *JAMA Health Forum* (Vol. 3, No. 4, pp. e220674-e220674). ([Published version](#))

McIntyre, Adrianna and Mark Shepard. (2022). “Automatic insurance policies – important tools for preventing coverage loss.” *The New England Journal of Medicine*, 386(5), 408-411. ([Published version](#))

Sommers, Benjamin D., Mark Shepard, and Katherine Hempstead. “Why Did Employer Coverage Fall In Massachusetts After The ACA? Potential Consequences Of A Changing Employer Mandate.” *Health Affairs* 37, no. 7 (2018): 1144-1152. (Link: [Publication](#))

Baicker, Katherine, Mark Shepard, and Jonathan Skinner. “Public financing of the Medicare program will make its uniform structure increasingly costly to sustain.” *Health Affairs* 32, no. 5 (2013): 882-890. (Link: [Publication](#))

Brennan, Niall, and Mark Shepard. “Comparing quality of care in the Medicare program.” *The American Journal of Managed Care* 16, no. 11 (2010): 841-848. (Link: [Publication](#))

Edited Volume Chapters

Shepard, Mark, Katherine Baicker, and Jonathan Skinner. “Does One Medicare Fit All? The Economics of Uniform Health Insurance Benefits.” In Robert A. Moffitt ed., *Tax Policy and the Economy* vol. 34 (2020): 1-41. (Links: [Paper](#), [Published volume](#))

Layton, Timothy, Alice Ndikumana, and Mark Shepard. "Health plan payment in Medicaid Managed Care: A Hybrid Model of Regulated Competition." In *Risk Adjustment, Risk Sharing, and Premium Regulation in Health Insurance Markets: Theory and Practice*, edited by Thomas McGuire and Richard van Kleef. Cambridge, MA: Elsevier, 2018. (Also available as [NBER Working Paper #23518](#))

Layton, Timothy, Ellen Montz, and Mark Shepard. "Health Plan Payment in U.S. Marketplaces: Regulated Competition with a Weak Mandate." In *Risk Adjustment, Risk Sharing, and Premium Regulation in Health Insurance Markets: Theory and Practice*, edited by Thomas McGuire and Richard van Kleef. Cambridge, MA: Elsevier, 2018. (Also available as [NBER Working Paper #23444](#))

Work in Progress

"Strategic Auto-Enrollment and Health Insurance Market Design," (with Kai Shen Lim and Myles Wagner)

"The Social Value of Health Insurance" (with Tim Layton, Samantha Burn, and Jingwei Sun)

"Insurance Billing Frictions and Health Care Markets?" (with Riley League and Myles Wagner)

"Understanding Geographic Variations in Medicaid and Medicare-Medicaid differences" (with Timothy Layton, Nicole Maestas, Daniel Prinz, and Boris Vabson)

HONORS, GRANTS, SCHOLARSHIPS

Co-Investigator. NIH/NIA Grant P01AG005842, "Healthcare Decision-Making and Outcomes for People Living with Alzheimer's Disease" via National Bureau of Economic Research. Project: "The Health Impact of Administrative Burdens for People with ADRD," PIs: Joshua Gottlieb and Timothy Layton. 2024-2029.

Co-Investigator. NIHCM Foundation. "Evaluating Automatic Enrollment into Marketplace Coverage During the Unwinding of the Medicaid Continuous Coverage Policy: a Two-State Study." (PI: Adrianna McIntyre, HSPH), \$44,977 (2023-24).

Co-Investigator. NIH/NIA Grant P01AG032952. "Improving Medicare in an Era of Change" via Harvard Medical School (PI: Bruce Landon), 2020-2025.

Faculty Advisor of the Year Award, Harvard Kennedy School, 2022-23.

Principal Investigator, William F. Milton Fund, Harvard University. ("Streamlining Health Insurance through Smart Defaults: Evidence and Policy Analysis", \$50,000, 2019-2021).

Co-Investigator, NIH Pilot Grant ("Prices, Incentives, and Provider Consolidation in Health Care") under NBER Aging P01 ("Economics of Health, Wealth, and Well-Being), with Ariel Pakes and Kate Ho (\$70,000, 2015-2017)

NBER Post-Doctoral Fellowship in Aging and Health Economics (2015-16)

Co-Investigator, Commonwealth Fund small grant (“Prices, Incentives, and Provider Consolidation in Health Care,” Jan.-July 2015), with Ariel Pakes and Kate Ho (\$50,000)

NBER Pre-Doctoral Fellowship in Aging and Health Economics (2012-13, 2013-14, 2014-15)

Certificate of Distinction in Teaching (as a Teaching Assistant), Derek Bok Center for Teaching and Learning, Harvard University (Spring 2012, Spring 2013)

Rumsfeld Foundation Graduate Fellowship (2012-13)

National Science Foundation Graduate Research Fellowship (2009-12)

Phi Beta Kappa, Harvard College (2007)

TEACHING, ADVISING, AND SERVICE

Current Classes

Doctoral Teaching:

Research in Health Economics (Economics 3017) at Harvard University (PhD students).
Faculty coordinator (fall 2021-2025); Guest teacher (fall 2016-2020).

MPP Teaching

Economic Analysis of Public Policy (API 102A), Harvard Kennedy School (MPP students).
Spring 2017-2025.

Poverty and Public Policy (SUP 110), Harvard Kennedy School (MPP students), Spring
2018, 2020, 2025.

PhD Student Advisees (with graduation year, initial placement)

- [Ben Berger](#) (2024, *U.S. Food and Drug Administration*)
- [Alice Heath](#) (2024, *U.S. Treasury Office of Tax Analysis*)
- [Robert French](#) (2024, *Loyola Marymount University*)
- [Edward Kong](#) (PhD 2024; *continuing MD-PhD student*)
- [Kai Shen Lim](#) (2024, *Harvard post-doc*)
- [LJ Ristovska](#) (2023, *U.T. Austin LBJ School*)
- [Myles Wagner](#) (2023, *The Ohio State University*)
- [Anthony Yu](#) (2023, *RAND*)
- [Samantha Burn](#) (2022, *Imperial College Business School*)
- [Grace McCormack](#) (2022, *USC Schaeffer post-doc*)
- [Sam Moy](#) (2021, *Uber*)
- [Marie-Pascale Grimon](#) (2021, *SOFI at Stockholm University*)
- [Elijah de la Campa](#) (2020, *Bloomberg Harvard City Leadership Initiative*)
- [Rebecca Sachs](#) (2020, *Congressional Budget Office*)

Guest Lecturer and Past Teaching

Core Course in Health Policy (Health Policy 2000B), Guest lecturer (AY 2017-2021, 2024).

American Economic Policy (ECON 1420), Teaching Assistant, Harvard University, 2012-13.

Service

Co-Chair, Economics Track, Harvard PhD Program in Public Policy (2024-present)

Co-Chair, Economics Track, Harvard PhD Program in Health Care Policy (2022-present)

PhD Admissions Committee, Harvard PhD Program in Public Policy (2021-present)

Standing Committee on Harvard PhD Program in Health Care Policy (2021-present)

Standing Committee on Harvard PhD Program in Public Policy (2019-present)

MPP Admissions Committee, Harvard Kennedy School (2016-2019)

PROFESSIONAL ACTIVITIES

Conference Presentations and Invited Seminars

2024-25: Georgia State University, Johns Hopkins, Tufts University, University of Virginia, Federal Trade Commission, Yale University, American Enterprise Institute.

2023-24: NBER Summer Institute (Industrial Organization, Economics of Health), Georgetown University.

2022-23: Congressional Budget Office, NBER Insurance Working Group, AEA Annual Meetings

2021-22: University of Chicago, USC Price School of Public Policy, NBER Public Economics

2020-21: Imperial College Business School, Queen Mary University, AEA Annual Meeting, American Society of Health Economists meetings, NBER Summer Institute (Health Care).

2019-20: NBER Tax Policy and the Economy, University of Georgia, BU-Harvard-MIT Health Economics, American Society of Health Economists meetings.

2018-19: University of Wisconsin Madison, University of Pennsylvania Wharton (health care), American Society of Health Economists meetings.

2017-18: Harvard Medical School, Wharton (Health Insurance Exchanges Conference), Yale economics, Stanford health economics, Brookings Institution, NBER (Public Economics)

2016-17: Harvard economics, AEA Annual Meetings, MIT, University of Texas Austin, NBER Summer Institute (Health Care)

2015-16: Boston Federal Reserve, Boston University (Economics and Questrom School of Business), Bureau of Economic Analysis, Federal Trade Commission, MIT, NBER Summer Institute (Health Care Session), U Illinois Urbana-Champaign Business School

2014-15: Boston College (Economics and Center for Retirement Research), Duke Fuqua, Chicago Booth, Columbia Economics, Congressional Budget Office, Harvard (Health Care Policy and Kennedy School), Northwestern (Economics and Kellogg Strategy), Princeton Economics,

Stanford GSB, UCLA Economics, UCSD Economics, U Penn Economics, Washington University
Olin Business School

2013: AEA Annual Meetings

Refereeing

AEJ: Economic Policy, AEJ: Applied Economics, AEJ: Microeconomics, American Economic Review, AER: Insights, American Journal of Health Economics, Econometrica, Journal of the European Economic Association, Journal of Health Economics, JPAM, Journal of Public Economics, Journal of Political Economy, National Tax Journal, Quarterly Journal of Economics, Rand Journal of Economics, Review of Economics and Statistics, Review of Economic Studies, AEJ: Microeconomics.

PERSONAL

Married to Ruohua Annetta Zhou; Two children: Lillian and Lulu.
United States Citizen