

# MAGGIE SHI

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## Employment

University of Chicago Harris School of Public Policy 2023 -  
Assistant Professor

National Bureau of Economic Research 2022 - 2023  
Postdoctoral Fellow in Aging and Health Research

## Professional Affiliations

National Bureau of Economic Research 2023 -  
Faculty Research Fellow - Economics of Health

## Education

PhD Columbia University 2016 - 2022

BA Rice University, *magna cum laude* 2012 - 2016

## Publications

[Regulated Revenues and Hospital Behavior: Evidence from a Medicare Overhaul](#)

with [Tal Gross](#), [Adam Sacarny](#), and [David Silver](#)

*Forthcoming, **Review of Economics and Statistics***

*Abstract:* We study a 2008 policy reform in which Medicare revised its hospital payment system to better reflect patients' severity of illness. We construct a simulated instrument that predicts a hospital's policy-induced change in reimbursement using pre-reform patients and post-reform rules. The reform led to large persistent changes in Medicare payment rates across hospitals. Hospitals that faced larger gains in Medicare reimbursement increased the volume of Medicare patients they treated. The estimates imply a volume elasticity of 1.2. To accommodate greater volume, hospitals increased nurse employment, but also lowered length of stay, with ambiguous effects on quality.

## Working Papers

### [Monitoring for Waste: Evidence from Medicare Audits](#)

*Revise and resubmit, **Quarterly Journal of Economics***

*Abstract:* This paper examines the tradeoffs of monitoring for wasteful public spending. I study a large Medicare program that monitored for unnecessary healthcare spending and consider its effect on government savings, provider behavior, and patient health. Every dollar Medicare spent on monitoring generated \$24–29 in government savings. The majority of savings stem from the deterrence of future care, rather than reclaimed payments from prior care. I do not find evidence that the health of the marginal patient is harmed, indicating that monitoring primarily deters unnecessary care. Providers subject to monitoring face increased administrative costs. However, these costs are mostly incurred upfront and include investments in compliance technology to assess the medical necessity of care.

### [Free to Spend? The Effect of Decentralization on Local Governments](#)

with [Andrea Tulli](#)

*Abstract:* We consider how decentralization of fiscal autonomy to local governments affects their budgetary decisions. We study an Italian reform which expanded municipal discretion and responsibility over property taxation, using novel data on what the national government would have done in a more centralized system. Municipalities on average picked higher tax rates than the national government would have. Municipalities respond to additional responsibility by raising more revenue and spending more on public services. Local conditions shape these municipal responses: those with greater political competition or worse economic conditions spend more on public services, but less on administration and public official remuneration.

## Works in Progress

Dependent Coverage and Parental “Job Lock”: Evidence from the Affordable Care Act

with [Hannah Bae](#) and [Katherine Meckel](#)

*Research Question:* How does extending health insurance coverage to young adults affect their parents' labor supply?

Quantity Regulation in Healthcare

with [Ashvin Gandhi](#)

*Research Question:* How do healthcare providers respond to policies that limit the quantity of care they can provide, and how does adaptation mitigate the effectiveness of these policies over time?

## Awards

Outstanding Doctoral Dissertation Award -- <i>honorable mention</i> National Tax Association	2022
Padma Desai Department Dissertation Award Columbia University	2022
Harriss Second Year Paper Award -- <i>runner up</i> Columbia University	2018
Peter Mieszkowski Prize for Honors Program Research Rice University	2016

## Grants and Fellowships

Emerging Ventures Grant <i>with Yunan Ji and Parker Rogers</i>	2022
R36 Dissertation Fellowship Health Services Research Dissertation Program Agency for Health Research and Quality	2020 - 2022

## Teaching

The American Economy - TA	F2018, F2019, F2020
Intermediate Microeconomics - TA	S2019, S2020
Principles of Economics - TA	F2017, S2018

## Invited Presentations (\**scheduled*)

ASSA, USC Schaeffer Center, NBER Health Care Spring Meeting, Harvard/MIT/BU Health Economics Seminar, UChicago Booth (Accounting), CEPRA/NBER Workshop on Aging and Health	2023
Mathematica, Congressional Budget Office, University at Buffalo, CU Denver, Wisconsin School of Business, Georgia Tech, Brookings Institution, UMass Amherst, Treasury OTA, WashU Olin, UChicago Harris, FTC, Boston University, Federal Reserve Bank of Dallas, University of Missouri, Binghamton University, Northwestern Kellogg (Strategy), Stanford Health Policy, APPAM, Federal Reserve Bank of Chicago, UChicago BFI Health Econ Conference, ASHEcon, Policy Impacts Conference	2022
ASSA, EEA, APPAM Student Research Series, Columbia HPM, ASHEcon, WEAI Graduate Student Workshop, EHEC, Congressional Budget Office, SHESG, SEA, NTA, Rice University	2021

YES, NTA

2020

ASHEcon, SOLE

2019

## Professional Service

*Referee:* American Economic Review, AEJ: Economic Policy, Journal of Health Economics, Journal of Public Economics, Economic Journal, Quarterly Journal of Economics

*Scientific Committee:* National Tax Association Conference (2023)