

# SAM STRIPLING

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## EDUCATION

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**The University of Texas at Austin**

PhD Student, Department of Economics

Master of Science, Economics

Bachelor of Arts, Liberal Arts (Majors: Math, Economics, and Plan II Honors)

*May 2022*

*August 2019*

*May 2011*

## FIELDS OF SPECIALIZATION

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Public Economics, Health Economics, and Labor Economics

## RESEARCH - WORKING PAPERS

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**The Effects of Public Health Insurance on Near-Elderly Mortality**

(with Sam Arenberg)

Despite being at the forefront of policy debates, whether health insurance reduces mortality remains empirically elusive. The key challenge is creating research designs that have the statistical power to reliably detect the effects of health insurance on mortality. This paper presents new, population-level estimates of the impact of Medicare and Medicaid on near-elderly mortality. We link complete, administrative death records to individual survey responses for nearly 30% of the US population using restricted-access Census data. To understand the effects of Medicare on mortality, we use a regression discontinuity design, comparing the mortality of individuals just above and below the age-65 eligibility threshold. We also consider whether the impact of Medicare on mortality differs by demographics, previous health insurance status, and income. We find no statistically significant effects of Medicare on mortality for the full population, previously uninsured, or low-income individuals. For Medicaid, we study the effects of the ACA Medicaid Expansion on near-elderly mortality using a differences-in-differences design with states that expanded Medicaid as the treatment group and states that did not as the control group. Results are currently awaiting Census disclosure.

**The Impact of Youth Medicaid Eligibility on Adult Incarceration**

(with Sam Arenberg and Seth Neller)

· *Revise and Resubmit, American Economic Journal: Applied Economics*

· *IPUMS 2020 Health Surveys Research Award Recipient*

This paper identifies an important spillover associated with public health insurance: reduced incarceration. In 1990, Congress passed legislation that increased Medicaid eligibility for individuals born after September 30, 1983. We show that Black children born just after the cutoff are 5 percent less likely to be incarcerated by age 28, driven primarily by a decrease in incarcerations connected to financially motivated offenses. Children of other races, who experienced almost no gain in Medicaid coverage as a result of the policy, demonstrate no such decline. We find that reduced incarceration in adulthood substantially offsets the initial costs of expanding eligibility.

**How Do Hospitals Respond to the Affordable Care Act Medicaid Expansions?**

· *Second-Year Paper*

Hospitals frequently provide health care to uninsured patients without receiving compensation. ACA Medicaid expansions reduced hospitals' uncompensated care burdens by providing the uninsured with a means of payment in the form of insurance. Anecdotal evidence from hospital administrators suggests hospitals in expansion states respond to their improved financial positions by increasing capacity, purchasing equipment, and hiring more workers. I investigate such claims using hospital financial report data from CMS. Using a differences-in-differences regression framework, I find no evidence that hospitals in expansion states increased bed capacity, capital expenditures, or FTEs relative to hospitals in non-expansion states.

## RESEARCH - WORK IN PROGRESS

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### **What Can New Hospital Price Transparency Data Tell Us About Healthcare Prices? (with Ariel Johnson and Radhika Patel)**

A recent CMS price transparency law required hospitals to provide price information for their health services, including cash prices and rates negotiated with insurance companies. This project examines price data compiled from nearly every hospital that has complied with the price transparency law. We compare and contrast hospital prices by health service, insurance type, insurer, and geography. Ariel Johnson and Radhika Patel are aspiring economists who have worked on this project as part of the UT Undergraduate Research Fellowship Program.

### **The Long-Term Effects of Pediatric and Congenital Heart Disease**

This joint research project with physicians and researchers from Texas Center for Pediatric and Congenital Heart Disease aims to be the first to link Texas education and labor data (from the Texas Education Research Center) with medical records. Our research will study the social, academic, and economic trajectories of children with pediatric and congenital heart disease.

## TEACHING AND WORK EXPERIENCE

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### **Teaching Assistant - UT Austin**

Economics of Education (40 students)

*Spring 2019 - 2021*

Health Economics (70 students)

*Fall 2018 - 2021*

Economics, Executive MBA Program (70 students)

*Spring 2018*

Microeconomics, MBA Program (250 students)

*Fall 2017*

Political Economy (40 students)

*Spring 2017*

Intro to Microeconomics (220 students)

*Fall 2016*

### **Founder - UT Economics Undergraduate Research Fellowship**

*Fall 2019 - Present*

I established a fellowship program that provides opportunities for undergraduates to work on academic research projects with PhD candidates. In our first year of the program, we received over 125 applications for 25 positions and raised over \$15,000.

### **Research Intern - Integra FEC**

*February 2021 - June 2021*

- Conducted event study financial analysis on publicly available stock returns in a large securities fraud case.
- Performed fundamental analysis of company financial statements and SEC filings.
- Engaged in forensic data analysis and research using CMS data to determine nursing home fraud.

## SKILLS

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**Stata, SQL, LaTeX, Microsoft Office**

## WORK AUTHORIZATION

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**US Citizen**

**Special Sworn Status** - federal security clearance

## REFERENCES

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### **Jolie Flink - UT Economics Ph.D. Program Coordinator**

- Contact Information: phd-econ@austin.utexas.edu or 512-471-8628
- Jolie Flink is coordinating my references and letters of recommendation from the following UT faculty:
  - Mike Geruso (advisor) - mike.geruso@utexas.edu
  - Jason Abrevaya - abrevaya@austin.utexas.edu
  - Gerald Oettinger - oettinge@austin.utexas.edu