

WILLIAM C. JOHNSON, PH.D.

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Citizenship: USA

Professional Experience:

Senior Researcher, Health Care Cost Institute

2017 – Present

Education:

Ph.D. Economics, University of Virginia

2017

Dissertation: “Essays on the Effects of Health Insurer and Health Care Provider Organization on Patient Treatments”

M.A. Economics, University of Virginia

2013

B.A. Mathematics, Economics, Washington and Lee University

2012

Peer Reviewed Publications:

- “[Sources of Geographic Variation in Health Care Spending and Utilization Among Individuals with Employer Sponsored Insurance](#),” 2020, with Jean Fuglesten Biniek, *Medical Care Research & Review*, Available Online
- “[Out-of-Network Spending Mostly Declined in Privately Insured Populations With A Few Notable Exceptions From 2008-2016](#),” 2020, with Zirui Song, Jacob Wallace, Jean Fuglesten Biniek, and Kevin Kennedy, *Health Affairs*, 39(6): 1032-1041.
- “[Comparing Different Methods for Indexing Commercial Health Care Prices](#),” with Kevin Kennedy, 2020, *Health Services Research*, 55(1): 113-118.
- “[Variation in Mental Illness and Provision of Public Services](#),” with Michael LaForest, Brett Lissenden, Steven Stern, 2017, *Health Services and Outcomes Research Methodology*, 17:1-30.

Other Publications:

- “[How Differences Between Commercial, Medicare Professional Service Prices Could Result in Different Policy Impacts](#),” with Katie Martin, Daniel Kurowski, Kevin Kennedy, Phillip Given, and Olivia DiRienzo, *HCCI Original*, December 2020
- “[Past the Healthy Marketplace Index, Volume II: Exploring Changes in Actual Prices Paid for Specific Services by Metro Area from 2013 to 2017](#),” with Kevin Kennedy, Elianna Clayton, and Katie Martin, *HCCI Original*, November 2020
- “[Past the Healthy Marketplace Index, Volume I: Exploring Actual Prices Paid for Specific Services by Metro Area](#),” with Kevin Kennedy, Elianna Clayton, and Katie Martin, *HCCI Original*, November 2020
- “[Healthy Marketplace Index: Understanding Health Care Spending, 2017](#),” with Kevin Kennedy, Anna Milewski, Elianna Clayton, and Sally Rodriguez, *Healthy Marketplace Index Report*, September 2020
- “[Comparing Commercial and Medicare Professional Service Prices](#),” with Daniel Kurowski, Kevin Kennedy, Aaron Bloeschichak, Elianna Clayton, and Jean Fuglesten Biniek, Health Care Cost Institute, *HCCI Original*, June 2020
- “[Out-of-Network Spending: Why Growing Attention is Focused on a Small Share of Total Medical Spending](#),” with Kevin Kennedy, Jean Fuglesten Biniek, Zirui Song, and Jacob Wallace, *Health Affairs Blog*, June 2020
- “[Understanding Variation in Childbirth Costs Among the Commercially Insured](#),” with Anna Milewski, Katie Martin, and Elianna Clayton, Health Care Cost Institute, *HCCI Original*, May 2020
- “[What if Price Transparency Reduced Commercial Price Variation?](#),” with Kevin Kennedy, Health Care Cost Institute, *HCCI Original*, January 2020
- “[Antidepressant Use Increased for Individuals with a Mood Disorder with Employer-Sponsored Insurance](#),” with Aaron Bloeschichak and Anna Milewski, Health Care Cost Institute, *HealthyBytes Blog*, October 2019

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- [“Healthy Marketplace Index: Hospital Concentration Index,”](#) with Kevin Kennedy, Sally Rodriguez, John Hargraves, Niall Brennan, Health Care Cost Institute, *Healthy Marketplace Index Report*, September 2019
- [“Insulin Use Explains Variation in Level, but not Growth, of Out-of-Pocket Spending on Insulin Products,”](#) with Jean Fuglesten Biniek, Health Care Cost Institute, *HealthyBytes Blog*, September 2019
- [“Rising Point-of-Sale Prices for Insulin Correspond with Higher Out-of-Pocket Spending on Insulin in January,”](#) with Jean Fuglesten Biniek, Health Care Cost Institute, *HealthyBytes Blog*, September 2019
- [“Out-of-Pocket Spending on Insulin is Highest at the Beginning of the Year,”](#) with Jean Fuglesten Biniek, Health Care Cost Institute, *HealthyBytes Blog*, September 2019
- [“Lower Health Care Spending and Use for People with Chronic Conditions in Consumer-Directed Health Plans,”](#) with Anna Milewski, Health Care Cost Institute, *Issue Brief*, May 2019
- [“Past the Price Index: Exploring Actual Prices Paid for Specific Services by Metro Area,”](#) with Kevin Kennedy, Sally Rodriguez, Niall Brennan, Health Care Cost Institute, *HealthyBytes Blog*, April 2019
- [“Surprise out-of-network medical bills during in-network hospital admissions varied by state and medical specialty, 2016,”](#) with Kevin Kennedy, and Jean Fuglesten Biniek, Health Care Cost Institute, *HealthyBytes Blog*, March 2019
- [“Healthy Marketplace Index: Comparing Price and Use Indices,”](#) with Kevin Kennedy, Sally Rodriguez, John Hargraves, Niall Brennan, Health Care Cost Institute, *Healthy Marketplace Index Report*, March 2019
- [“Healthy Marketplace Index: Use Index,”](#) with Kevin Kennedy, Sally Rodriguez, John Hargraves, Niall Brennan, Health Care Cost Institute, *Healthy Marketplace Index Report*, March 2019
- [“Spending on Individuals with Type 1 Diabetes and the Role of Rapidly Increasing Insulin Prices,”](#) with Jean Fuglesten Biniek, Health Care Cost Institute, *Issue Brief*, January 2019
- [“The Healthy Marketplace Index: Furthering Transparency to Improve our Understanding of Commercial Healthcare Markets Across the Country,”](#) with Kevin Kennedy, Niall Brennan, and Sally Rodriguez, *Academy Health Blog*, November 2018
- [“Understanding how price growth affected areas differently across the country,”](#) with Kevin Kennedy, Health Care Cost Institute, *HealthyBytes Blog*, October 2018
- [“Healthy Marketplace Index: Price Index,”](#) with Kevin Kennedy, Sally Rodriguez, John Hargraves, Niall Brennan, Health Care Cost Institute, *Healthy Marketplace Index Report*, October 2018
- [“The Rising Cost of Specialty Drugs Drove Spending Increases for People with Multiple Sclerosis,”](#) Health Care Cost Institute, *Issue Brief*, April 2018.
- [“Under Pressure – Adults with Hypertension are Spending Increasingly More on Health Care,”](#) with Dan Fulop, Sally Rodriguez, Health Care Cost Institute, *Issue Brief*, March 2018
- [“Top Spenders Among the Commercially Insured Increased Spending Concentration and Consistent Turnover from 2013 to 2015,”](#) with Sally Rodriguez, Health Care Cost Institute, *Issue Brief*, February 2018
- [“Consistently High Turnover in the Group of Top Health Care Spenders,”](#) with Niall Brennan, Sally Rodriguez, John Hargraves, *New England Journal of Medicine Catalyst*, February 2018

Working Papers:

- “Different Growths for Different Folks? Geographic Variation in Health Care Price Growth Among the Commercially Insured,” 2020, with Kevin Kennedy
- “Pharmacy claims data show flat growth in long-acting insulin prices following entry of competitor product”, 2020, with Jean Fuglesten Biniek and Elianna Clayton
- “Understanding Variation in Place Specific Effects on Individual Medical Spending,” 2020, with Jean Fuglesten Biniek
- “Does Health Insurer Competition Increase the Use of Costly Treatments?”, 2017

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Selected Awards:

Finalist, Kantar Media, Information is Beautiful Award: Humanitarian, 2019
Finalist, National Institute of Health Care Management, Digital Media Award, 2019
Winner, Infographic Award, National Association of Health Data Organization (NAHDO) Annual Conference, Park City, UT, 2018
Snively Dissertation Proposal Prize, University of Virginia, 2015
Excellence in Graduate Teaching, University of Virginia, Spring 2014

Invited Presentations:

2020: Academy Health Annual Research Meeting; American Society of Health Economists Annual Conference (Cancelled); Congressional Budget Office
2019: Academy Health Annual Research Meeting; American Society of Health Economists Annual Conference; Foundation for Research on Equal Opportunity (Washington, DC)
2017: Analysis Group (Boston, MA); Bates White Economic Consulting; Food and Drug Administration Center for Drug Evaluation and Research; Southern Economic Conference (Discussant); University of Virginia Graduate Economic Alumni Conference (Co-Founder, Co-Organizer)
2015: Virginia Senate Joint Subcommittee on Mental Health (with Brett Lissenden and Steven Stern)

Awarded Grants:

“Continuing Development and Implementation of the Healthy Marketplace Index to Facilitate Reliable Reporting on the Health Care Market's Performance,” Robert Wood Johnson Foundation (I.D.: 77057); Principal Investigator: William C. Johnson; Total Cost: \$470,534; Total Project Period: 12/01/2019 - 11/30/2020
“Continuing the Healthy Marketplace Index,” Robert Wood Johnson Foundation (I.D.: 75321); Principal Investigators: William C. Johnson, Niall Brennan; Total Cost: \$350,000; Total Project Period: 03/01/2018 - 10/01/2019

Skills:

Statistical Programming: Stata, SQL, Matlab, Python, R, SAS
Data Visualization: Python, R, Tableau
Microsoft Office Suite: Excel, Word, PowerPoint