

CURRICULUM VITAE
LAUREN HERSCH NICHOLAS
lauren.h.nicholas@cuanschutz.edu
January 23, 2021

EDUCATION AND TRAINING

PhD	2008	Columbia University	Social Policy and Policy Analysis, Field: Health Economics
MPP	2004	The George Washington University	Public Policy
BS	2002	Cornell University	Policy Analysis and Management

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

2021 – Present	Associate Professor, Health Systems, Management & Policy, University of Colorado School of Public Health
2020 – 2021	Associate Professor, Health Policy & Management, Johns Hopkins Bloomberg School of Public Health, Baltimore, MD
2020 – Present	Pilot Core Deputy Director, Hopkins Economics of Alzheimer’s Disease And Services Center
2013 – 2020	Assistant Professor, Health Policy & Management, Johns Hopkins Bloomberg School of Public Health, Baltimore, MD
2015 – 2020	Director, PhD Concentration in Health Economics, Health Policy & Management, Johns Hopkins Bloomberg School of Public Health, Baltimore, MD
2013 – Present	Core Faculty, Roger C. Lipitz Center for Integrated Health Care, Johns Hopkins Bloomberg School of Public Health, Baltimore, MD
2013 – Present	Core Faculty, Interdepartmental Program in Health Economics, Johns Hopkins Bloomberg School of Public Health, Baltimore, MD
2013 – Present	Faculty Affiliate, Survey Research Center, Institute for Social Research, University of Michigan, Ann Arbor, MI
2010 – Present	Faculty Affiliate, Population Studies Center, Institute for Social Research,

University of Michigan, Ann Arbor, MI

2010 – 2013 Faculty Research Fellow, Survey Research Center, Institute for Social Research, University of Michigan, Ann Arbor, MI

2008 – 2010 Research Investigator & NIA Postdoctoral Fellow, Population Studies Center, University of Michigan, Ann Arbor, MI

PROFESSIONAL ACTIVITIES

Member:

AcademyHealth (2003 –)

American Economic Association (2007 –)

American Society of Health Economists (2008 –)

Association for Academic Surgery (2014 –)

Association for Public Policy and Management (2005 –)

National Academy of Social Insurance (2013 –)

Population Association of America (2007 –)

Conference Program Committees

American Society of Health Economists (2010, 2012, 2014, 2016, 2018, 2019, 2020, 2021), AcademyHealth (2012, 2013, 2014, 2015, 2016, 2017 (Medicare Theme Leader), 2018 (Medicare Theme Leader), 2019 (Medicare Theme Leader), International Health Economics Association (2011, 2013, 2015, 2017, 2019, 2021)

EDITORIAL ACTIVITIES

Journal Editorial Board

Journal of Pain and Symptom Management

Journal Peer Review

American Journal of Managed Care, American Journal of Public Health, Demography, Economic Inquiry, Forum for Health Economics & Policy, Health Affairs, Health Economics, Health Services Research, JAMA, JAMA Internal Medicine, JAMA Oncology, JAMA Surgery, Journal of the American Geriatrics Society, Journal of the Economics of Ageing, Journal of General Internal Medicine, Journal of Health Economics, Journal of Statistical Software, Labour Economics, Medical Care Research and Review, PLoS One

Ad-Hoc Grant Review Panels

National Institute on Aging (Training Grants, Dementia, and Research Methods Special Emphasis Panels), U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, U.S. Department of Agriculture Economic Research Service

Other Service to the Profession

*National Academy of Social Insurance Heinz Dissertation Award Selection Committee,
Mentor: AcademyHealth, ASHEcon*

HONORS AND AWARDS

2019: Excellence in Teaching, Johns Hopkins School of Public Health

2015: Delta Omega Honor Society, Johns Hopkins University Catalyst Award

2014: HCUP Article of the Year Award, Johns Hopkins Leadership Program for Women Faculty

2013: American Geriatrics Society Presidential Poster Session (most highly ranked abstracts)

2012: AcademyHealth Article of the Year Award; Member, National Academy of Social Insurance

2011: Young Scientists Award, World Congress on Debates and Consensus in Bone, Muscle and Joint Diseases (declined), Best Overall Abstract Award, Academic Surgical Congress

2010: Visiting Scholar, University of Iowa

2009: National Academy of Social Insurance John Heinz Dissertation Award

2009: A. Regula Herzog Young Investigators Award, Institute for Social Research

2005: John A. Hartford Foundation Pre-Dissertation Award Program

2004: Columbia University Eveline M. Burns Award in Social Policy

2004: George Washington University Administration MPP Honor Graduate Award

2002: Cornell University College of Human Ecology Degree Marshall

2001: AARP Andrus Foundation Undergraduate Fellowship in Aging and Finance

PUBLICATIONS

Peer-Reviewed (First author is student, fellow, or junior faculty mentee)*

1. **Nicholas LH**, Langa KM, Bynum JPW, Hsu JW. The Financial Presentation of Alzheimer Disease and Related Dementias. *JAMA Internal Medicine*. In press, published online 30 November 2020.

2. Matta S, Hsu JW, Iwashyna TJ, Baum MY, Langa KM, **Nicholas LH**. Identifying cohabiting couples in administrative data: evidence from Medicare address data. *Health Services and*

Outcomes Research Methodology. In press.*

3. Maclean JC, Ghimire KM, **Nicholas LH**. Marijuana legalization and disability claiming. *Health Economics*. In press, published online November 2020.

4. Bozzi DG, **Nicholas LH**. A Causal Estimate of Long-Term Health Care Spending Attributable to Body Mass Index Among Adults. *Economics & Human Biology*. In press.*

5. **Nicholas LH**, Hanson C, Segal J, Eisenberg MD (2020). Association Between Treatment by Fraud and Abuse Perpetrators and Health Outcomes Among Medicare Beneficiaries. *JAMA Internal Medicine*. 180(1):62–69.

6. **Nicholas LH**, Stith SS. Are Transplant Centers that Meet Insurer Minimum Volume Requirements Better Quality? *Medical Care Research and Review*. In press.

7. **Nicholas LH**, Baum MY (2020). Wills, Public Policy, and Financial Well-Being Among Surviving Spouses. *Journal of the Economics of Aging*. 16, article 100211.

8. Hazell SZ, Fu W, Hu C, Voong KR, Lee B, Peterson V, Feliciano JL, **Nicholas LH**, McNutt TR, Han P, and Hales RK (2020). Financial toxicity in lung cancer: An assessment of magnitude, perception, and impact on quality of life. *Annals of Oncology*. 31(1) 96 – 102.*

9. **Nicholas LH**, Maclean JC (2019). The Effect of Medical Marijuana Laws on the Health and Labor Supply of Older Adults: Evidence from the Health and Retirement Study. *Journal of Policy Analysis & Management*. 38(2) 455 - 480.

10. **Nicholas LH**, Done N, Baum M. Lifetime Job Demands and Later Life Disability (2018). *Journal of the Economics of Aging*. Article 100184.

11. **Nicholas LH**, Wu S (2020). Do Medicare Advantage Rebates Reduce Enrollees' Out-of-Pocket Spending? *Medical Care Research and Review*. 77 (5), 474-482.

12. **Nicholas LH**, Segal J, Hanson C, Zhang K, Eisenberg MD (2019). Medicare Beneficiaries' Exposure to Fraud and Abuse Perpetrators, *Health Affairs*. 38(5): 788 – 793.

13. Wolff JL, **Nicholas LH**, Willink A, Mulchahy J, Davis K, Kasper JD (2019). Medicare Spending and the Adequacy of Support with Daily Activities in Community-Living Older Adults with Disability, *Annals of Internal Medicine*. 170(12):837-844.

14. Bowring MG, Massie AB, Craig-Shapiro R, Segev DL, **Nicholas LH** (2018). Kidney Offer Acceptance Patterns at Programs Undergoing a Systems Improvement Agreement. *American Journal of Transplantation*. 2018(31): 2182 - 2188.

15. Dean LT. **Nicholas LH** (2018). Getting Credit for Your Health? Using Credit Scores to Understand Predictors and Consequences of Disease. *American Journal of Public Health*, 108(11):1503 - 1505.*

16. Dean LT, Moss SL, Ransome Y, Frasso-Jaramillo L, Zhang Y, Visvanathan K, **Nicholas LH**, Schmitz KH (2018). "It still affects our economic situation": long-term economic burden of breast cancer and lymphedema. *Supportive Care in Cancer*. (2018): 1 - 12.*
17. Rasmussen SV, Zhou S, Thomas AG, Segev DL, **Nicholas LH** (2018). Transplant community perceptions of the benefits and drawbacks of alternative quality metrics for regulation. *Clinical Transplantation*. 33(4): e13500 (1 – 8).
18. Rasmussen SS, Thomas A, Garonzik-Wang J, Henderson M, Stith S, Segev DL, **Nicholas LH** (2018). Reported Effects of the SRTR 5-tier Rating System on US Transplant Centers. *Transplantation International*. 31(10): 1135 - 1143.
19. Zhou S, Holscher CM, Massie AB, Segev DL, **Nicholas LH** (2018). Correlation between kidney transplant quality metrics and waitlist metrics. *Transplantation*. 102(8): e362 - e363.
20. Dean LT, Schmitz KH, Frick K, **Nicholas LH**, Zhang Y, Subramanian SV, Visvanathan K (2018). Consumer credit as a novel marker for health and economic burden in a diverse population of breast cancer survivors. *Journal of Cancer Survivorship*. (2018): 1 - 10.*
21. Henke RM, Karaca Z, Gibson TB, Cutler E, Barrett ML, Levit K, Johann J, **Nicholas LH**, Wong, HS (2017). Medicare Advantage and Traditional Medicare Hospitalization Intensity and Readmissions. *Medical Care Research and Review*. 75(4): 434 - 453.
22. de Souza JA, Yap BJ, Wroblewski K, Blinder V, Araújo FS, Hlubocky FJ, **Nicholas LH**, O'Connor JM, Brockstein B, Ratain MJ, Daugherty CK (2017). Measuring financial toxicity as a clinically relevant patient-reported outcome: The validation of the COMprehensive Score for financial Toxicity. *Cancer*. 123(3): 476 - 484.
23. Oddo VM, **Nicholas LH**, Bleich SN, Jones-Smith JC (2016). The impact of changing economic conditions on overweight risk among children in California from 2008 to 2012. *Journal of Epidemiology and Community Health*. 2016(70): 874 - 880.*
24. Courtright KR, Madden V, Gabler NB, Cooney E, Small DS, Troxel A, Casarett D, Ersek M, Cassel JB, **Nicholas LH**, Escobar G (2016). Rationale and Design of the Randomized Evaluation of Default Access to Palliative Services (REDAPS) Trial. *Annals of the American Thoracic Society*, 13(9): 1629 - 1639.
25. Narang, AK. **Nicholas LH** (2016). Out-of-pocket spending and financial burden among Medicare beneficiaries with cancer. *JAMA Oncology*. 3(6): 757 - 765.*
26. Ahmed R, Chow EK, Massie AB, Anjum S, King EA, Orandi BJ, Bae S, **Nicholas LH**, Lonze BE, Segev DL (2016). Where the sun shines: industry's payments to transplant surgeons. *American Journal of Transplantation*. 16(1): 292 - 300.*
27. Schold JD, **Nicholas LH** (2015). Considering Potential Benefits and Consequences of Hospital Report Cards: What are the Next Steps? *Health Services Research*, 50(2): 321 - 29.

28. Kucirka LM, Bowring MG, Massie AB, Luo X, **Nicholas LH**, Segev DL (2015). Landscape of deceased donors labeled increased risk for disease transmission under new guidelines. *American Journal of Transplantation*. 15(12):3215 - 3223.*
29. Narang AK, Wright AA, **Nicholas LH** (2015). Trends in Advance Care Planning in Patients With Cancer: Results From a National Longitudinal Survey. *JAMA Oncology*, 1(5):601 - 608.*
30. Osborne NH, **Nicholas LH**, Thumma, J, Ryan AR, Dimick JB (2015). Association of Hospital Participation in a Quality Reporting Program with Surgical Outcomes and Expenditures for Medicare Beneficiaries. *JAMA*, 313(5):496 - 504.
31. Xu T, Goldstein EV, Dzung E, Dy SM, **Nicholas LH** (2015). Public Attitudes on the Future Sustainability of Medicare. *Journal of Health Care Finance*. 42(1):1 - 6.*
32. Shih T, **Nicholas LH**, Thumma JR, Birkmeyer JD, Dimick JB (2014). Does Pay-for-Performance Improve Surgical Outcomes? An Evaluation of Phase 2 of the Premier Hospital Quality Incentive Demonstration. *Annals of Surgery*, 259(4):677 - 8.*
33. **Nicholas LH**, Bynum JPW, Weir DR, Iwashyna TJ, Langa KM (2014). Advance Directives And Nursing Home Stays Associated With Less Aggressive End-Of-Life Care For Severe Dementia Patients. *Health Affairs*, 33(4): 667 - 74.
34. Schwartz DA, Shah AA, Zogg CK, **Nicholas LH**, Velopulos CG, Efron DT, Schneider EB, Haider AH (2015). Operative Delay to Laparoscopic Cholecystectomy: Racking Up the Cost of Healthcare. *Journal of Trauma and Acute Care Surgery*: 79(1): 15 - 21.*
35. **Nicholas LH** (2014). Will Medicare Advantage Benchmark Reforms Impact Plan Rebates and Enrollment? *American Journal of Managed Care*, 20(11): 917 - 924.
36. McInerney M, Mellor J, **Nicholas LH** (2013). Recession Depression? Mental Health Effects of the 2008 Stock Market Crash. *Journal of Health Economics*, 32(6): 1090 - 1104.
37. Norton EC, **Nicholas LH**, Huang SH (2013). Informal Care and Inter-vivos Transfers: Results from the National Longitudinal Survey of Mature Women, *B.E. Journal of Economic Analysis & Policy*, 14 (2): 377 - 400.
38. **Nicholas LH** (2013). Better Quality of Care or Healthier Patients? Hospital Utilization by Medicare Advantage and Fee-for-Service Enrollees, *Forum for Health Economics and Policy*, 16(1): 1 – 25.
39. **Nicholas LH**, Dimick JB (2013). Bariatric Surgery in Minority Patients Before and After Implementation of a Centers of Excellence Program. *JAMA*, 310(13): 1399 - 1400.
40. Kelley AS, Langa KL, Covinsky K, Smith AK, Cagle J, Ornstein K, Silveira M, **Nicholas LH**, Ritchie CS (2014). Leveraging the Health and Retirement Study to Advance Palliative Care Research. *Journal of Palliative Medicine*, 17(5): 506 - 11.

41. Dimick JB, **Nicholas LH**, Thumma, J, Ryan AR, Birkmeyer JD (2013). Complications Following Bariatric Procedures Before vs. After Implementation of National Policy Restricting Coverage to Centers of Excellence, *JAMA*, 309(8): 792 - 799. **HCUP Article of the Year Award, 2014**
42. Dimick JB, Staiger DO, Osborne NH, **Nicholas LH**, Birkmeyer JD (2012). Composite Measures for Rating Hospital Quality with Major Surgery. *Health Services Research*, 47(5): 1861 - 1879.
43. **Nicholas LH**, Langa KM, Iwashyna TJ, Weir DR (2011). Regional Variation in the Association Between Advance Directives and End-of-Life Medicare Expenditures, *JAMA*, 306(13): 1447 - 1453. Abstract reprinted with accompanying editorial, *Archives of Internal Medicine*, 172(3): 266 - 268. **AcademyHealth Article of the Year Award, 2012**
44. **Nicholas LH** (2011). Modeling the Impact of Medicare Advantage Payment Cuts on Ambulatory Care Sensitive and Elective Hospitalizations, *Health Services Research*, 46(5): 1417 - 1435.
45. **Nicholas LH** (2011). Can Food Stamps Help to Reduce Medicare Spending on Diabetes? *Economics & Human Biology*, 9(1), 1 - 13.
46. **Nicholas LH**, Dimick JB, Iwashyna TJ (2011). Do Hospitals Alter Patient Care Effort Allocations Under Pay-for-Performance? *Health Services Research*. 46(1 part I): 61 – 81.
47. Osborne NH, **Nicholas LH**, Ghaferi AA, Dimick JB (2011). Evaluating Popular Media and Internet- Based Hospital Quality Ratings for Cancer Surgery. *Archives of Surgery*, 146(5): 600 - 604.*
48. **Nicholas LH**, Osborne NH, Birkmeyer JD, Dimick JB (2010). Hospital Process Compliance and Surgical Outcomes in Medicare Beneficiaries, *Archives of Surgery*, 145(10): 999 - 1004.
49. Sakshaug JW, Weir DR, **Nicholas LH** (2010). Validating Diabetes Disease Status in Claims and Survey Data, *Proceedings of the 2010 International Methodology Symposium: The Interplay among Censuses, Surveys and Administrative Data*, Statistics Canada, Ottawa.*
50. Dimick JB, Osborne NH, **Nicholas LH**, Birkmeyer JD (2009). Identifying High Quality Bariatric Surgery Centers: Hospital Volume or Risk-Adjusted Outcomes? *Journal of the American College of Surgeons*, 209(6) 702 - 706.
51. Osborne NH, **Nicholas LH**, Ghaferi AA, Upchurch G, Dimick JB. (2009). Do Popular Media And Internet-Based Hospital Quality Ratings Identify Hospitals with Better Cardiovascular Surgery Outcomes? *Journal of the American College of Surgeons*. 210(1): 87 - 92.*
52. Biles B, Dallek G, **Nicholas LH** (2004). Medicare Advantage: Déjà Vu all over Again? *Health Affairs* web exclusive, W4-586 - W4-597.

Invited Commentary

1. **Nicholas LH**, Dimick JB (2015). Evaluating Changes in Health Care Policy: Methods Matter. *JAMA Surgery*, 150(7): 649.

2. **Nicholas LH**, Dimick JB (2011). Too Much of a Good Thing? Multi-tasking and Distraction in Quality Improvement, *Archives of Surgery*, 146(3): 270.

Policy Briefs

Moon M, Hollin IL, **Nicholas LH**, Schoen C, Davis K (2015). Serving Older Adults with Complex Care Needs: A New Benefit Option for Medicare, *The Commonwealth Fund*.

Biles B, **Nicholas LH**, Cooper BS (2014). The Cost of Privatization: Extra Payments to Medicare Advantage Plans, *The Commonwealth Fund*.

Biles B, **Nicholas LH**, Cooper BS, Adrion E, Guterman S (2006). The Cost of Privatization: Extra Payments to Medicare Advantage Plans Updated and Revised, *The Commonwealth Fund*.

Biles B, **Nicholas LH**, Guterman S (2006). Medicare Beneficiary Out-of-Pocket Costs: Are Medicare Advantage Plans a Better Deal? *The Commonwealth Fund*

CURRICULUM VITAE

LAUREN HERSCH NICHOLAS

PART II

TEACHING EXPERIENCE

STUDENTS AND FELLOWS ADVISED

PhD

Kiefer Ahn, PhD expected 2022

Lumin Shen, PhD expected 2023

DrPH

Amanda Teeple, DrPH expected 2022

Masters

Kelsey Edwards, MPH 2019

John Fischer, MPH 2016

Margaret Gavor, MPH 2015

Daniel Gorbaty, MPH 2019

Jessica Hale, MSPH expected 2020

Edward Juhn, MPH 2018

Mayumi Masumara, MPH expected 2020

Anaeze Offodile, MPH 2017

Kathleen Taylor, MSPH 2019

Laurent Tsai, MPH expected 2020

Clinical Fellowship

Amol Narang, Radiation Oncology research year 2015

CAPSTONE ADVISOR

Margaret Gavor, MPH 2015

Sasmira Matta, MHS 2019

PRELIMINARY DEPARTMENT ORALS

Nicolae Done, Health Policy & Management, June 17, 2015

Kurt Herzer, Health Policy & Management, September 22, 2014

Sonal Parasrampurua, Health Policy & Management, April 12, 2018

Shannon Wu, Health Policy & Management, February 2, 2018

PRELIMINARY SCHOOLWIDE ORALS

Liming Dong, Mental Health, October 30, 2015

Kurt Herzer, Health Policy & Management, December 2, 2014

Lauren Kucirka, Epidemiology, October 14, 2014

Sonal Parasrampur, Health Policy & Management, May 23, 2018
Joyce Qian, Epidemiology, June 8, 2018
Ashton Shaffer, Epidemiology, December 11, 2017
Shannon Wu, Health Policy & Management, March 26, 2018

FINAL SCHOOLWIDE ORALS

Kurt Herzer, Health Policy & Management, January 25, 2016
Lauren Kucirka, Epidemiology, June 4, 2015
Shannon Wu, Health Policy & Management, May 14, 2019
Susan Christiansen, Population, Family & Reproductive Health, December 1, 2020

ADDITIONAL SIGNIFICANT MENTORSHIP

Mentorship in economics, econometrics, and health policy research to clinical fellows, junior faculty, and students participating in 1 or more research papers and projects:

Clinical Fellows: Amir Gahferi (University of Michigan), Amol Narang (Johns Hopkins University) Nicholas Osborne (University of Michigan), Terry Shih (University of Michigan) Vicente Valero (Johns Hopkins University)

Undergraduate and Medical Students: Rizwan Ahmad (Johns Hopkins University), Amanda Chen (Johns Hopkins University), Cole Friedes (Johns Hopkins University), Sarah Hazell (Johns Hopkins University), Tim Xu (Johns Hopkins University)

JHSPH PhD Student Research Collaborators: Debbie Gilbert (Health Policy & Management), Kurt Herzer (Health Policy & Management), Vanessa Oddo (Nutrition), Shannon Wu (Health Policy & Management)

JHU Junior Faculty: Lorraine Dean (Epidemiology, K Award Co-mentor), Diane Schwartz (Surgery)

CLASSROOM INSTRUCTION: PRIMARY INSTRUCTOR

2020 PhD Seminar in Health Policy: Using Secondary Data to Conduct Health Policy Research, Johns Hopkins Bloomberg School of Public Health, Term 1. Enrollment: 10
2020 Applied Econometrics for Health Policy Research, Johns Hopkins Bloomberg School of Public Health, Term 4. Enrollment: 4
2019 PhD Seminar in Health Policy: Using Secondary Data to Conduct Health Policy Research, Johns Hopkins Bloomberg School of Public Health, Term 1. Enrollment: 8
2019 Applied Econometrics for Health Policy Research, Johns Hopkins Bloomberg School of Public Health, Term 4. Enrollment: 5 *Excellence in Teaching Award*
2018 PhD Seminar in Health Policy: Using Secondary Data to Conduct Health Policy Research, Johns Hopkins Bloomberg School of Public Health, Term 1. Enrollment: 8
2018 Applied Econometrics for Health Policy Research, Johns Hopkins Bloomberg School of Public Health, Term 4. Enrollment: 8
2017 PhD Seminar in Health Policy: Using Secondary Data to Conduct Health Policy Research, Johns Hopkins Bloomberg School of Public Health, Term 1. Enrollment: 12

- 2016 Applied Econometrics for Health Policy Research, Johns Hopkins Bloomberg School of Public Health, Term 2. Enrollment: 10
- 2015 Applied Econometrics for Health Policy Research, Johns Hopkins Bloomberg School of Public Health, Term 2. Enrollment: 6
- 2014 Applied Econometrics for Health Policy Research, Johns Hopkins Bloomberg School of Public Health, Term 2. Enrollment: 4

CLASSROOM INSTRUCTION: OTHER SIGNIFICANT TEACHING

- 2019 JHSPH Schoolwide Causation Class Guest Lecture (Causation in Health Economics). Johns Hopkins Bloomberg School of Public Health, Term 2.
- 2014 HPM PhD Seminar Guest Lecture (“Provider Behavior”). Johns Hopkins Bloomberg School of Public Health, Term 2.

- 2013 Innovations in Healthcare for the Elderly Guest Lecture (“Medicare Advantage”), Johns Hopkins Bloomberg School of Public Health, Term 2.
- 2013 Seminar in Public Health Economics Guest Lecture (“Research Overview”), Johns Hopkins Bloomberg School of Public Health, Term 3.
- 2013 Seminar in Health Services Research & Policy Guest Lecture (“Research Overview”), Johns Hopkins Bloomberg School of Public Health, Term 3.
- 2008: Research Practicum in Poverty and Public Policy, Columbia University, Term 2: Teaching Assistant
- 2007: Research Practicum in Poverty and Public Policy, Columbia University, Term 2: Teaching Assistant
- 2006: Microeconomics for International Affairs, Columbia University, Term 2: Teaching Assistant
- 2006: Microeconomics and Public Policy, Columbia University, Term 1: Teaching Assistant
- 2005: Microeconomics and Public Policy, Columbia University, Term 2: Teaching Assistant
- 2005: Research Methods, Columbia University, Term 1: Teaching Assistant

RESEARCH GRANT PARTICIPATION

Title: Health and Financial Implications of Early-Stage Alzheimer's Disease and Related Dementias

Sponsor: National Institute on Aging

Role: PI \$ \$3,037,522

Period: 2020 – 2025

Financial problems can be some of the earliest warning signs of Alzheimer’s Disease and Related Dementias. Building on our previous work studying the financial presentation among single-person households, we study financial symptoms of ADRD in coupled households and understand the health impacts for patients and families.

Title: Hopkins Economics of Alzheimer’s Disease & Services Center

Sponsor: National Institute on Aging

Role: Co-Investigator (PIs Polsky, Wolff) \$544,508

Period: 2020 – 2025

The HEADS Center advances science that addresses the relationship between ADRD and goals of accessible, affordable, and appropriate quality care delivery. To achieve this goal, HEADS will undertake activities to stimulate and support research on two overarching signature themes: (1) To identify and quantify ADRD care needs and variation in needs, including racial and ethnic minority subgroups, and how ADRD care needs affects economic consequences for persons with ADRD, their families and other unpaid caregivers and (2) To examine how health system organization and financing affect ADRD-related health outcomes.

Title: Financial Consequences of Health and Healthcare Spending Among Older Couples

Sponsor: Social Security Administration

Role: PI \$75,000

Period: 2019 – 2020

Dementia, a chronic, degenerative disease characterized by deteriorating cognition, represents a particularly aggressive threat to older adults' financial well-being. Dementia-linked adverse financial events have the potential to deteriorate retirement savings, increasing financial strain and potentially demand for Medicaid and Supplemental Security Income. The presence of an unimpaired spouse may protect dementia patients if the unimpaired spouse intervenes, or both spouses may be harmed by financial errors committed by the dementia patient. In this project, we use linked consumer credit data and Medicare claims to study adverse financial effects before and after a formal dementia diagnosis among co-residing couples to address the topic of risks and resources at older ages. Findings from this study will provide SSA with important information about the impacts of dementia on the financial well-being of married couples and provide baseline information about the co-movement of spousal credit outcomes.

Title: Understanding and Respecting End-of-Life Treatment Preferences Among Older Adults with Alzheimer's Disease and Related Dementias

Sponsor: National Institute on Aging

Role: PI \$2,569,076

Period: 2018 – 2022

This grant studies surrogate decision-making for ADRD patients to better inform the advance care planning process and communication with surrogates. Results from this study can help to design interventions to increase the likelihood that a patient engaging in advance care planning has the conversations or prepares the documents that allow family, friends, and clinicians to act in a patient's best interest after dementia onset. Findings can also inform decision-making when ACP may no longer apply or was not completed.

Title: Adverse Financial Events Before and After Dementia Diagnosis: Understanding the Timing and Need for Representative Payees Among Households Impacted by Dementia

Sponsor: Social Security Administration

Role: PI \$95,000

Period: 2017 – 2019

This grant studies the frequency and timing of adverse financial events ranging from missed bill payment to home foreclosure and bankruptcy relative to the timing of dementia diagnoses among older adults.

Title: Integrating Palliative Care with Chronic Disease Management in Ambulatory Care

Sponsor: Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality

Role: Co-Investigator (PI Dy) \$470,000

Period: 2019 – 2020

The goal of this project is to conduct an integrative review on palliative care in chronic illness.

Title: Using Consumer Credit Data to Identify Precursors and Consequences of Cognitive Impairment

Sponsor: National Institute on Aging (R21)

Role: PI \$448,771

Period: 2016 – 2019

This grant links Medicare and credit panel data to assess the feasibility of predicting cognitive impairment through financial events.

Title: Design and Evaluation of Novel Metrics of Transplant Center Performance

Sponsor: Arnold Foundation

Role: Co-Principal Investigator, \$154,524

Period: 2016 – 2017

This grant designs a new set of transplant center quality metrics. A new set of quality metrics could catalyze an increase in the number of transplants performed, saving patient lives and reducing healthcare costs associated with organ failure among patients waiting for transplantation.

Title: Reducing Geographic Disparities in Kidney and Liver Allocation

Sponsor: National Institute

Role: Co-Investigator (PI Segev)

Period 2016 – 2020

This grant construct metrics of geographic variation in access to liver and kidney transplantation that adjust for heterogeneity inherent to clinical practice; studies the impact of recent allocation changes on clinical decision-making and geographic disparities; and designs optimized sharing systems that reduce geographic disparity while explicitly accounting for uncertainty in supply and demand.

Title: Default Palliative Care Consultation for Seriously Ill Hospitalized Patients

Sponsor: National Institute on Aging (UH1-3)

Role: Co-Investigator (PI Halpern)

Period: 2015 – 2019

This study conducts the largest randomized trial ever in palliative care, answering key questions such as how well inpatient palliative care consults work, which structural characteristics of these services make them particularly effective (e.g., staffing by palliative care physicians vs. nurse practitioners), and which types of patients derive the greatest benefit.

Title: Using Consumer Data to Predict and Prevent Adverse Health Events Among Older Adults
Sponsor: Johns Hopkins University Catalyst Award
Role: PI \$75,000
Period: 2015 – 2016

This grant explores the possibility of using consumer credit data to identify early warning signs of physical and cognitive decline among older adults.

Title: Can advance planning reduce the long-term burden of cancer treatments on family health and financial well-being?
Sponsor: State of Maryland Department of Health and Mental Hygiene Cigarette Restitution Fund
Role: PI \$75,000
Period: 2014 – 2016

This project studies the effect of advance care planning on health and financial outcomes among cancer decedents' surviving spouses.

Title: Geographic Variation in the Health and Economic Determinants and Outcomes of Elective Surgery
Sponsor: National Institute on Aging (K01)
Role: PI \$492,182
Period: 4/1/2012-3/31/217

This study assesses the effect of elective surgery to treat four common chronic conditions (arthritis, back pain, cataracts and heart disease) on health and disability outcomes related to quality of life including mobility and depression, and economic outcomes including paid and unpaid work. Findings about the health, functional status and economic effects of several elective surgeries for older adults can be used for comparative effectiveness research and treatment guidelines.

Title: Evaluating Policies for Improving Surgical Care in the Elderly
Sponsor: National Institute on Aging
Role: Co-Investigator (PI Dimick)
Period: 04/15/2011 - 3/31/16

This study seeks to evaluate the effects of recent Medicare quality initiatives on surgical outcomes and cost of care amongst Medicare beneficiaries.

Title: Long-Term Health Impacts of Physical and Cognitive Occupational Exposures
Sponsor: National Institute on Aging (R03)

Role: PI \$73, 193

Period: 09/03/2013 - 08/31/15

This project will create a new, publicly available dataset of job characteristics by linking all jobs reported by Health and Retirement Study (HRS) respondents to a comprehensive set of job and worker characteristics collected by the Department of Labor's Occupational Information Network. We will link these measures to survey data and Medicare claims to examine the relationship between job characteristics and subsequent health and Medicare utilization.

Title: Medicare at 50

Sponsor: The Commonwealth Fund

Role: Co-Investigator (PI Davis)

Period: 01/01/14-6/30/15

This project will produce six papers to prepare analyses to set the stage for the celebration of the 50th anniversary of the Medicare program and to frame the debate over Medicare's future as the boomer generation born after World War II becomes eligible for coverage.

UNIVERSITY SERVICE

Johns Hopkins Bloomberg School of Public Health

University:

Co-organizer of Hopkins Health, Labor, Education & Development Conference, 2017 – Present

School:

BSPH Wellness & Quality of Life Committee, 2016 – Present (schoolwide)

Co-Organizer of Assistant Professor Lunch Series, 2014 – 2017

Department:

Director, PhD Concentration in Health Economics and Policy, 2015 – Present

Admissions Committee, PhD Concentration in Health Economics and Policy, 2014 – Present

Lipitz Faculty Search Committee, 2017

Self Study Committee, 2015 – 2016

Health Economics faculty search committee, 2014

University of Michigan

Co-Organizer, University of Michigan Population Studies Center Seminar Series, 2009 – 2013

Kick-Off Committee, Institute for Health Policy and Innovation, 2012

Population Studies Center 50th Reunion Committee, 2011

PRESENTATIONS

Scientific Meetings

Nicholas LH. “Adverse Financial Events Before and After Dementia Diagnosis,” National Bureau of Economic Research Summer Institute (July 2019).

- Nicholas LH. "Adverse Financial Events Before and After Dementia Diagnosis," American Society of Health Economists (June 2019).
- Nicholas LH. "The Implications of Advance Care and Financial Planning for Surviving Spouses' Financial Well-Being," Conference on Cross-Country Analysis of Retirement, Health, and Well-Being (October 2018).
- Nicholas LH. "Using Credit Data to Catch Signs of Cognitive Impairment," Retirement Research Centers Annual Meeting (August 2018).
- Nicholas LH "Medicare Beneficiaries' Exposure to Fraud and Abuse," Association for Public Policy & Management. (November 2017).
- Nicholas LH. "Using Credit Data to Catch Signs of Cognitive Impairment," Alzheimer's Disease International Congress (July 2017).
- Nicholas LH "Effects of Systems Improvement Agreements on Waitlist Patient Outcomes." Academic Surgical Congress. (February 2017).
- Nicholas LH "The impact of medical marijuana laws on the labor supply of older adults: Evidence from the Health and Retirement Study," Association for Public Policy & Management. (November 2016).
- Nicholas LH "Do Patients Respond to Negative Hospital Quality Information? Evidence from Organ Transplant Regulation," American Society of Health Economists. (June 2016).
- Nicholas LH "The impact of medical marijuana laws on the labor supply of older adults: Evidence from the Health and Retirement Study," American Society of Health Economists. (June 2016).
- Nicholas LH "The impact of medical marijuana laws on the labor supply of older adults: Evidence from the Health and Retirement Study," Midwest Health Economics Conference. (April 2016).
- Nicholas LH "Unintended Effects of High-Stakes Performance Incentives: Evidence from Organ Transplant," Association for Public Policy & Management. (November 2015).
- Nicholas LH "Provider Response on High-Powered Incentives: Evidence from Transplant Center Flagging," Midwest Economics Association. (March 2015).
- Nicholas LH "Lifetime Job Characteristics, Mobility, and Social Security Claiming Decisions." Association for Public Policy & Management. (November 2014).
- Nicholas LH "Do Medicare Advantage Plan Rebates Affect Beneficiary Healthcare Utilization?" AcademyHealth. (June 2014).

Nicholas LH "Effects of Medicare Advantage Plan Rebates on enrollment and Beneficiary Health," American Society of Health Economists. (June 2014).

Nicholas LH "Till Bad Health Do Us Part? Gender Differences in Spousal Abandonment after Health Shocks," American Society of Health Economists. (June 2014).

Nicholas LH "Diffusion of Laparoscopic Adjustable Gastric Banding After the Medicare National Coverage Decision for Bariatric Surgery," American Society of Health Economists. (June 2014).

Nicholas LH "All-Payer Variation in Rates of Elective Joint Replacement." Academic Surgical Congress. (February 2014).

Nicholas LH. "How Has Competitive Bidding in Medicare Advantage Impacted Beneficiaries?" Association for Public Policy & Management. (November 2013).

Nicholas LH "Social Security Benefit Claiming and Medicare Utilization," Retirement Research Centers Annual Meeting. (August 2013).

Nicholas LH "The Impact of Competitive Bidding on Medicare advantage Enrollment" International Health Economics Association. (July 2013).

Nicholas LH "Recession Depression: Physical and Mental Health Effects of the 2008 stock Market Crash," CESifo Conference on Empirical Health Economics. (February 2013).

Nicholas LH "Can Selective Referral Improve the Safety of Elective Surgery? Evidence from the Medicare Bariatric Surgery Coverage decision," Annual Health Economics Conference. (September 2012).

Nicholas LH "Can Selective Referral Policies Improve Patient Outcomes? Evidence from the Medicare Bariatric Surgery Coverage Decision" National Bureau of Economic Research Summer Institute. (July 2012).

Nicholas LH "Can Selective Referral Policies Improve Patient Outcomes? Evidence from the Medicare Bariatric Surgery Coverage Decision," American Society of Health Economists. (June 2012).

Nicholas LH "Elective Surgery and Family Labor supply amongst Chronically Ill older Adults," American Society of Health Economists. (June 2012).

Nicholas LH "Economic Conditions at Birth and Later Mortality: Scarring or Selection?" Population Association of America. (May 2012).

Nicholas LH "Quality Measures for Assessing Hospital Mortality: Evaluation Using Instrumental Variable Analysis, Cognitive Impairment and Medicare Utilization Near the End-of-Life," Academic Surgical Congress. (February 2012).

Nicholas LH “Would the Death Panel Really Save Money? Advance Directives, Medicare Expenditures and End-of-life Care” International Health Economics Association. (July 2011).

Nicholas LH “Advance Directives and Medicare Spending at the End-of-Life,” AcademyHealth. (June 2011).

Nicholas LH “Is More Better? Elective Surgery, Paid and Unpaid Work Among Older Adults,” Population Association of America. (March 2011).

Nicholas LH " Does Pay-for-Performance Work In Surgery? Evaluation Of A Medicare Demonstration Project." Academic Surgical Congress. (February 2011).

Nicholas LH “Is More Better? Economic Returns to Treatment Intensity,” America Economics Association. (January 2011).

Nicholas LH “Economic Effects of treatment Intensity: Elective Surgery, Paid and Unpaid Work,” RAND Workshop on Comparative International Research. (July 2010).

Nicholas LH “Economic Effects of Treatment Intensity: The Effect of Elective Surgery on Paid & Unpaid Work Amongst Older Adults,” American Society of Health Economists. (June 2010).

Nicholas LH “Cognitive Impairment and End-of- Life Treatment Intensity,” AcademyHealth. (June 2010).

Nicholas LH “Hospital Utilization by Fee-for-Service and Medicare Advantage Enrollees,” Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality. (September 2009).

Nicholas LH "Does Pay for Performance Improve Hospital Quality of Care?" International Health Economics Association. (July 2009).

Nicholas LH “Hospital Response to Pay-for-Performance Incentives” NBER Summer Institute. (July 2009).

Nicholas LH “Process Compliance and Surgical Mortality,” AcademyHealth. (June 2009).

Nicholas LH “Can Food Stamp Receipt Improve Diabetes Control and Reduce Medicare Costs for Elderly Diabetics? Evidence from Biomarker Data,” Population Association of America. (May 2009).

Nicholas LH “Medicare Advantage Payment Extra Payments, Enrollment & Quality of Care,” AcademyHealth. (June 2007).

Invited Seminars

- 2020 **Nicholas LH and Hsu J.** “Adverse Financial Events Before and After Dementia Diagnosis,” Federal Interdepartmental Elder Justice Working Group.
- 2020 **Nicholas LH** and Hsu J. “Adverse Financial Events Before and After Dementia Diagnosis,” University of Colorado.
- 2019 **Nicholas LH** and Hsu J. “Adverse Financial Events Before and After Dementia Diagnosis,” Georgia State University.
- 2019 **Nicholas LH** and Hsu J. “Adverse Financial Events Before and After Dementia Diagnosis,” Dartmouth College.
- 2018 Nicholas, LH. “The impact of medical marijuana laws on the pain and labor supply of older adults,” Johns Hopkins School of Medicine Geriatrics Grand Rounds
- 2018 Nicholas LH. “Waitlist Patient Outcomes Under High-Stakes Performance Report Cards In Organ Transplantation,” The Penn State University.
- 2018 Nicholas LH. “Using Credit Data to Catch Signs of Cognitive Impairment,” Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services.
- 2018 Nicholas LH. “Using Credit Data to Catch Signs of Cognitive Impairment,” Social Security Administration.
- 2017 Nicholas LH. “Using Credit Data to Catch Signs of Cognitive Impairment,” National Institute on Aging.
- 2017 Nicholas LH. “Lifetime Job Demands, Work Capacity and Disability at Older Ages,” University of New Mexico.
- 2017 Nicholas LH. “Labor Supply after Bariatric Surgery,” Social Security Administration.
- 2015 Nicholas LH. “Advance Directives and End-of-Life Care,” George Mason University.
- 2015 Nicholas LH “Can Selective Referral Improve the Safety of Elective Surgery?” New York University.
- 2015 Nicholas, LH. “Unintended Effects of High-Stakes Performance Incentives: Evidence from Organ Transplant,” Temple University.
- 2014 Nicholas LH. “Hospital Compare Scores and Long-Term Changes in Functional Status,” Center for Medicare & Medicaid Innovation.
- 2014 **Nicholas LH**, Bynum JPW, Weir DR, Iwashyna TJ, Langa KM. “Advance Directives And Nursing Home Stays Associated With Less Aggressive End-Of-Life Care For Severe Dementia Patients,” Health Affairs Alzheimer’s Briefing, Washington, DC.

- 2014 Nicholas LH. “Effects of Medicare Advantage Plan Rebates on enrollment and Beneficiary Health,” Indiana University.
- 2013 Nicholas LH. “Economic Effects of Treatment Intensity: The Effect of Elective Surgery on Paid & Unpaid Work Amongst Older Adults,” Columbia University.
- 2013 Nicholas LH. “Economic Effects of Treatment Intensity: The Effect of Elective Surgery on Paid & Unpaid Work Amongst Older Adults,” Emory Rollins School of Public Health.
- 2013 Nicholas LH. “Economic Effects of Treatment Intensity: The Effect of Elective Surgery on Paid & Unpaid Work Amongst Older Adults,” Harvard Medical School.
- 2013 Nicholas LH. “The Effect of Elective Surgery on Paid & Unpaid Work Amongst Older Adults,” Columbia University.
- 2013 Nicholas LH. “The Effect of Elective Surgery on Paid & Unpaid Work Amongst Older Adults,” University of Massachusetts Medical School.
- 2012 Nicholas LH. “The Effect of Elective Surgery on Paid & Unpaid Work Amongst Older Adults,” RAND.
- 2012 Nicholas LH. “The Effect of Elective Surgery on Paid & Unpaid Work Amongst Older Adults,” Social Security Administration.
- 2012 Nicholas LH. “Economic Effects of Treatment Intensity: The Effect of Elective Surgery on Paid & Unpaid Work Among Older Adults,” University of Pennsylvania.
- 2012 **Nicholas LH**, Langa KM, Iwashyna TJ, Weir DR. “Regional Variation in the Association Between Advance Directives and End-of-Life Medicare Expenditures,” Dartmouth College.
- 2012 **Nicholas LH**, Langa KM, Iwashyna TJ, Weir DR. “Regional Variation in the Association Between Advance Directives and End-of-Life Medicare Expenditures,” National Institute on Aging Council.

Invited Discussions at Scientific Meetings

- 2018: AcademyHealth, American Society of Health Economists, Southern Economic Association
- 2017: AcademyHealth, Association for Public Policy & Management, Retirement Research Centers Annual Meeting
- 2016: AcademyHealth, American Society of Health Economists, Association for Public Policy & Management

2015: AcademyHealth, International Health Economics Association, Association for Public Policy & Management

2014: Midwest Health Economics Association, American Society of Health Economists, Association for Public Policy & Management

2013 Midwest Health Economics Association, International Health Economics Association

2012: American Society of Health Economists, Association for Public Policy and Management

2011: American Economic Association, International Health Economics Association, Midwest Health Economics Association

2010: American Society of Health Economists

2008: American Society of Health Economists

MEDIA COVERAGE

Rai, T. "Medical marijuana and elderly labor." *Science*, 363(6430): 942-943.

McGinley, L. "Many Medicare cancer patients hit by high out-of-pocket costs." *Washington Post*, November 23, 2016 (online) November 24, 2016 (print).

Ingraham, C. "How medical marijuana could help boomers get the most out of retirement." *Washington Post WONKBLOG*, October 4, 2016.

New York Times Editorial Board, "Helping Patients and Doctors Talk about Death," *New York Times*, July 26, 2015, SR8.

Fottrell, Q. Boomers face a greater risk of depression and suicide. *MarketWatch*, August 12, 2014.

Goodman, E. It's Always Too Soon Until It's Too Late: Advance Care Planning With Alzheimer's. *Health Affairs Blog*, April 10, 2014.

Poon, L. Avoiding The Nursing Home Ups The Risk Of Unwanted Medical Care. *NPR Blog*, April 8, 2013.

Chen, P. Rethinking Centers of Excellence (and Other Well-Laid Plans), *New York Times Doctor and Patient blog*, April 4, 2013.

Zocalo Public Square. Up for Discussion: Does Fresno Mean Feeding Tube? <http://zocalopublicsquare.org/thepublicsquare/2012/09/26/does-fresno-mean-feeding-tube/read/up-for-discussion>, September 28, 2012.

Klein, E. A surprising study on end-of-life care, Washington Post WONKBLOG, December 13, 2011.

Appearance on Connecticut Public Radio “The Long Goodbye,” October 18, 2011.

Landau, E. Why End-of-Life Planning Saves Money, CNN.com, October 4, 2011.

Mann, D. Advance Directives Shape End-of-Life Experiences, WebMD. October 4, 2011.

Torres, C. Living Wills Help Curb Costs Only In High-Spending Areas, Study Finds, Kaiser Health News, October 4, 2011.

Winerman, L. As Medicare Moves Toward Pay-for-Performance, Study Highlights Need for Better Data PBS Newshour Website, October 18, 2010.

“Hospital Process Compliance and Surgical Outcomes in Medicare Beneficiaries”

Burton, T. Medicare Faulted on Surgery Evaluation. Wall Street Journal, October 19, 2010. A6.

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

Research Statement

My research program focuses on improving quality and financing of health care, particularly for older Americans, by improving information for policymakers and payers, patients, and providers. A major innovation of this work is using novel data linkages such as Health and Retirement Survey data and consumer credit data to Medicare claims to address questions in health economics and medicine that are difficult to answer using single data sources. Much of my work is focused on two relatively understudied areas that account for a significant share of Medicare spending; surgery and health care utilization near the end-of-life (especially for the cognitively impaired). Additionally, I study a policy efforts to improve Medicare quality and efficiency including managed care, public reporting, pay-for-performance, and selective referral.

KEY WORDS

Health Economics, Health Policy, Aging, Medicare, Surgery, Geographic Variation, End-of-Life, Alzheimer’s Disease