Announcing the Schaeffer Center and CESR Blog: The Evidence Base

The Schaeffer Center and the USC Center for Economic and Social Research (CESR) have collaborated to produce The Evidence Base, a blog dedicated to impacting and advancing policy conversations within the spheres of health, economics, and social research. We invite you to take a look, share with friends, and check back often for expert insight and thought-provoking articles about timely and important topics as well as updates on the centers' happenings.

USC School of Pharmacy's Masters of Science in Healthcare Decision Analysis

Housed within the USC School of Pharmacy and the Department of Clinical Pharmacy and Pharmaceutical Economics and Policy, the Master of Science in Healthcare Decision Analysis (HCDA) program through the Schaeffer Center is the first of its kind in the country. Through an interdisciplinary approach, the program provides students with the tools and decision-making know-how to succeed in the shifting healthcare data analytics landscape. For more about the program and application information, click here.

July Highlights

Improve the Performance of Healthcare Markets

Schaeffer Center faculty Erin Trish co-authored a paper in the AMA Journal of Ethics on the Affordable Care Act's Cadillac Tax. The paper analyzes the distributional effects of the Cadillac Tax by worker income. Trish found that multiple mechanisms together create a scenario in which the tax has a regressive effect on society.

Increase Value In Healthcare Delivery

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Faculty Announcements

Erin Trish joins the Price School Faculty

Erin Trish will continue with the Schaeffer Center through a faculty research position with the USC Price School of Public Policy. Trish was a post-doctoral fellow at the Center and recently received two Robert Wood Johnson Grants to expand her research on insurance markets.

Dana Goldman elected to the ISPOR Board

Schaeffer Center Director Dana Goldman was elected to the 2015-2017
July Updates: Effects of the ACA's Cadillac Tax, "nudging" physician compensation, Medicare in 2030, the economic burden of vaccine-preventable diseases...

Senior Fellow Bob Kocher co-authored a Perspective article for the New England Journal of Medicine on applying concepts of behavioral economics to practitioner payment models. Nudging payment in this way could positively impact health care delivery and improve organizational efficiency.

Improve Health Outcomes for an Aging Society

The Schaeffer Center and the Center for Health Policy at Brookings jointly hosted a forum aimed at helping policymakers plan and modernize Medicare to meet impending challenges. The conference brought together policymakers and economists to discuss some of the most pressing issues that Medicare faces.

Through the Future Elderly Model, Schaeffer researchers generated a snapshot of changing Medicare demographics and spending which they discuss in this blog post.

Foster Better Pharmaceutical Policy and Global Regulation

Our research on vaccines continues to lead the conversations. PhD student Justin McGinnis co-authored a paper published in the Journal of Primary Prevention which estimates the human and economic impact of four major adult vaccine-preventable diseases in the United States in 2013. They found the annual cost of these diseases to be $26.5 billion among adults aged 50 and over.

Keck School of Medicine of USC Faculty Steven Fox was interviewed by CBS Los Angeles about the controversy surrounding the California bill mandating public school children receive immunizations.

Data Corner

The Expertise of the Data Core Staff

At the heart of the Schaeffer Center's Data Core are a group of five research programmers who support faculty, contribute to research projects, and help students get up to speed on research programming.

International Society of Pharmacoeconomics and Outcomes Research (ISPOR) Board of Directors.

New Faculty Member James Heckman Gives Lecture at USC

Nobel Laureate James Heckman gave a lecture to USC faculty, staff, and students on the importance of character traits in his debut with the Schaeffer Center as a Presidential Scholar-in-Residence.

Academic Programs

MS in Pharmaceutical Economics and Policy

The Master of Pharmaceutical Economics and Policy is currently recruiting qualified applicants for the Fall of 2016 cohort. Information about the program, recruitment, and application process can be found here.

Upcoming Events

Schaeffer Faculty to travel to Milan & Rome

Faculty from the Schaeffer Center will be presenting at the International Health Economics Association Congress in Milan. Etienne Gaudette will then be traveling to Rome to attend an International Microsimulation Meeting.
July Updates: Effects of the ACA’s Cadillac Tax, “nudging” physician compensation, Medicare in 2030, the economic burden of vaccine-preventable diseases, and more.

Patricia St. Clair, Bryan Tysinger, Laura Gascue, Duncan Leaf and Brendan Rabideau. Read about their impressive breadth of experience, background, and research projects in this month’s data corner update.

New Schaeffer Publications

- Zachary Wagner, Jeremy Barofsky, and Neeraj Sood in *Health Affairs*: PEPFAR Funding Associated With An Increase In Employment Among Males in Ten Sub-Saharan African Countries
- Bradley Herrin and Erin Trish in the *American Medical Association Journal of Ethics*: The Distributional Effects of the Affordable Care Act’s Cadillac Tax by Worker Income

Schaeffer Experts in the News

- Jason Doctor on *Al Jazeera America*: California is weighing an assisted suicide bill
- Jason Doctor in *Pasadena Star News*: Terminally ill transgender El Monte man wishes he could legally end his own life
- Steven Fox on *CBS Los Angeles*: Nation of Islam leader voices opposition to mandatory vaccine bill
- Etienne Gaudette and Dana Goldman in *Brookings Health360*: Medicare’s big fat problem, fiscal and otherwise
- Paul Ginsburg in *Modern Healthcare*: Out-of-network charges under fire
- Dana Goldman in *AAFP*: Medicare at 50 faces its own health concerns
- Dana Goldman and James Heckman in *USC News*: Nobel laureate James Heckman joins USC Schaeffer Center
- Dana Goldman in *Modern Healthcare*: Medicaid plans struggle to provide mental health services
- Glenn Melnick in the *Wall Street Journal*: DOJ girds for strict review of any health-insurer mergers
- Glenn Melnick in the *Los Angeles Times*: In reversal, Sacramento County wants to restore clinic access to immigrants
- Glenn Melnick in the *Los Angeles Times*: Obamacare cash fuels healthcare merger mania
- Leonard Schaeffer in *CAPG Health*: Health Care Reform: A 50-State Experiment
- Jeremy Barofsky, Zachary Wagner, and Neeraj Sood in *Brookings Health360*: U.S. funding for HIV treatment linked with employment gains in sub-Saharan Africa

About the Schaeffer Center

The mission of the Leonard D. Schaeffer Center for Health Policy & Economics at the University of Southern California is to measurably improve value in health through evidence-based policy solutions, research excellence, transformative education, and private and public sector engagement. The Center is a unique collaboration between the USC Sol Price School of Public Policy and the USC School of Pharmacy.
July Updates: Effects of the ACA's Cadillac Tax, "nudging" physician compensation, Medicare in 2030, the economic burden of vaccine-preventable diseases

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