

ABBY ALPERT

The Wharton School
University of Pennsylvania
Philadelphia, PA 19104

Email: alpertab@wharton.upenn.edu
Office Phone: (215) 746-3174

CURRENT ACADEMIC APPOINTMENTS

The Wharton School, University of Pennsylvania
Assistant Professor of Health Care Management, 2016-present
Dorinda and Mark Winkelman Distinguished Faculty Scholar, 2022-present
Leonard Davis Institute of Health Economics, Senior Fellow, 2016-present

National Bureau of Economic Research, Faculty Research Fellow, 2018-present

PREVIOUS POSITIONS

Paul Merage School of Business, University of California at Irvine
Assistant Professor, Department of Economics and Public Policy, 2013-2016
Assistant Professor, Department of Economics (by courtesy), 2013-2016
Center for Health Care Management and Policy, Faculty Affiliate, 2013-2016

RAND Corporation, Santa Monica, CA
Associate Economist, 2011-2013

EDUCATION

Ph.D. Economics, University of Maryland, 2011
Committee Co-Chairs: Mark Duggan and Judith K. Hellerstein

B.S. Mathematics and Economics, University of Chicago, 2003

RESEARCH INTERESTS

Health Economics, Public Economics, Labor Economics

PUBLISHED AND ACCEPTED PAPERS

Journal Articles

1. “Hassle Costs Versus Information: How Do Prescription Drug Monitoring Programs Reduce Opioid Prescribing?” (with Sarah Dykstra and Mireille Jacobson), *Accepted at American Economic Journal: Economic Policy*
2. Abby Alpert, Darius Lakdawalla and Neeraj Sood, 2023. “Prescription Drug Advertising and Drug Utilization: The Role of Medicare Part D,” **Journal of Public Economics**, 221: 104860.

3. Abby Alpert, Bill Evans, Ethan Lieber, and David Powell, 2022. "Origins of the Opioid Crisis and Its Enduring Impacts," **Quarterly Journal of Economics**, 137(2): 1139-1179.
4. Danae Horn, Abby Alpert, Mark Duggan, Nicolas Garcia, and Mireille Jacobson, 2022. "Biosimilar Competition and Payments in Medicare: The Case of Trastuzumab," **Journal of Clinical Oncology: Oncology Practice**.
5. Abby Alpert and David Powell, 2020. "Estimating Intensive and Extensive Tax Responsiveness," **Economic Inquiry**, 58(4): 1855-1873.
6. David Powell, Abby Alpert, Rosalie Pacula, 2019. "A Transitioning Epidemic: How the Opioid Crisis is Driving the Rise in Hepatitis C," **Health Affairs**, 39(2): 287-294.
7. Abby Alpert and Mireille Jacobson, 2019. "Impact of Oncology Drug Shortages on Chemotherapy Treatment," **Clinical Pharmacology and Therapeutics**, 106(2): 415-421.
8. Abby Alpert, David Powell, Rosalie Pacula, 2018. "Supply-Side Drug Policy in the Presence of Substitutes: Evidence from the Introduction of Abuse-Deterrent Opioids," **American Economic Journal: Economic Policy**, 10(4): 1-35.
9. Abby Alpert, Helen Hsi, Mireille Jacobson, 2017. "Evaluating the Role of Payment Policy in Driving Vertical Integration in the Oncology Market," **Health Affairs**, 36(4): 680-688.
10. Neeraj Sood, Abby Alpert, Kayleigh Barnes, Peter Huckfeldt, Jose Escarce. 2017. "Effects of Payment Reform in More versus Less Competitive Markets," **Journal of Health Economics**, 51: pp 66-83.
11. Abby Alpert, 2016. "The Anticipatory Effects of Medicare Part D on Drug Utilization," **Journal of Health Economics**, 49: pp 28-45.
12. Abby Alpert, Mark Duggan, and Judith Hellerstein, 2013. "Perverse Reverse Price Competition: Average Wholesale Prices and Medicaid Pharmaceutical Spending," **Journal of Public Economics**, 108: pp 44-62.
13. Abby Alpert, Kristy Morganti, Gregg Margolis, Jeffrey Wasserman, and Arthur Kellermann, 2013. "Giving EMS Flexibility in Transporting Low-Acuity Patients Could Generate Substantial Medicare Savings," **Health Affairs**, 32(12): 2142-2148.
14. David Auerbach, Ateev Mehrotra, Peter Hussey, Peter Huckfeldt, Abby Alpert, Christopher Lau, and Victoria Shier, 2015. "How Will Provider-Focused Payment Reform Impact Geographic Variation in Medicare Spending?" **American Journal of Managed Care**, 21(6).
15. Kristy Morganti, Abby Alpert, Gregg Margolis, Jeffrey Wasserman, and Arthur Kellermann, 2013. "Should Payment Policy be Changed to Allow a Wider Range of EMS Transport Options?" **Annals of Emergency Medicine**, 63(5): 615-626.

16. Kristy Morganti, Abby Alpert, Gregg Margolis, Jeffrey Wasserman, and Arthur Kellermann, 2013. “The State of Innovative Emergency Medical Service Programs in the United States,” **Prehospital Emergency Care**, 18(1): 76-85.
17. Christopher Lau, Abby Alpert, Peter Huckfeldt, Peter Hussey, David Auerbach, Hangsheng Liu, Neeraj Sood, and Ateev Mehrotra, 2014. “Post-acute Referral Patterns for Hospitals and Implications for Bundled Payment Initiatives.” **Healthcare**, 2(3): 190-195.
18. Geoffrey Joyce, Dana Goldman, Arleen Leibowitz, Abby Alpert, and Yuhua Bao, 2005. “A Socioeconomic Profile of Older Adults with HIV.” **Journal of Health Care for the Poor and Underserved**, 16: pp 19-28.

Reports and Book Chapter

19. David Auerbach, Peter Huckfeldt, Peter Hussey, Abby Alpert, Hangsheng Liu, Victoria Shier, Christopher Lau, Mark Totten, and Ateev Mehrotra, 2013. “IOM Committee on Geographic Variation in Health Care Spending and Promotion of High-Value Care: A Modeling of Policy Recommendations.” RAND Working Paper WR-970-IOM.
20. Abby Alpert, Alan Garber, and Dana Goldman, 2006. “Societal perspective: comment.” Chapter 28 in Futerma, A. and Zimran, A. eds, *Gaucher Disease*, pp 489-497. CRC Press.
21. Neeraj Sood, Abby Alpert, Dana Goldman, and Mary Vaiana, 2004. “Should California Regulate Health Insurance Premiums?” 2004. California Health Care Foundation.

Other Published Writing

22. Mireille Jacobson, Abby Alpert, and Fabian Duarte, 2012. “Prescription Drug Shortages: Reconsidering the Role of Medicare Payment Policies.” Health Affairs Blog.

WORKING PAPERS

1. “Opioid Use and Employment Outcomes: Evidence from the U.S. Military,” 2022 (with Steve Schwab and Ben Ukert), *Submitted*
2. “The Rise in Vertically Integrated PBMs and Prescription Drug Insurance Costs: Evidence from Medicare Part D,” 2022 (with Charles Gray and Neeraj Sood), *Submitted*
3. “The Impact of Direct-to-Consumer Advertising on Outpatient Care Utilization,” 2022 (with Matthew Eisenberg, Brendan Rabideau, Rosemary Avery, Jeff Niederdeppe, Neeraj Sood), *Submitted*
4. “Technology, Monopoly, and the Decline of the Viatical Settlements Industry,” 2005. NBER Working Paper No. 11164. (with Neeraj Sood and Jay Bhattacharya)

AWARDS, HONORS, AND FELLOWSHIPS

Wharton Teaching Excellence Award for MBAs, 2021, 2022

Wharton Teaching Excellence Award for Undergraduates, 2021, 2022

Wharton Teaching Excellence Award, 2020

American Economic Journal: Economic Policy, Excellence in Refereeing Award, 2021

Bing Center for Health Economics Investment Award, RAND Corporation, 2012

Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality Dissertation Fellowship, 2010 – 2011

Economic Club of Washington Doctoral Research Fellowship, 2010

Maryland Population Research Center, University of Maryland, Trainee, 2006 – 2007

GRANTS

Leonard Davis Institute Pilot Grant. “The Effects of Prior Authorization on Medicaid Prescription Drug Access,” 2022.

Wharton Dean’s Research Fund. “The Effects of Prior Authorization on Medicaid Prescription Drug Access,” 2021-2023.

Wharton Dean’s Research Fund. “Understanding the Consequences of Pharmacy Benefit Manager (PBM) Integration,” 2019-2021.

Leonard Davis Institute Pilot Grant. “How Do Prescription Drug Monitoring Programs Reduce Opioid Prescribing?” 2019

Wharton Mack Institute Research Fellowship. “The Role of Pharmacy Benefit Managers in Driving Pharmaceutical Prices and Utilization,” 2018

Co-Investigator. Agency for Health Care Research and Quality R01. “Direct and Indirect Effects of Direct-to-Consumer Advertising,” (PI: Rosemary Avery), 2018-2021

Wharton Dean’s Research Fund. “The Effects of Medicaid Managed Care on Utilization and Prices,” 2017-2019.

Co-Investigator. Agency for Health Care Research and Quality R01. “Did the Medicare Modernization Act Cause Oncology Drug Shortages?” (PI: Mireille Jacobson), 2014-2017.

Principal Investigator. Agency for Health Care Research and Quality R03. “The Impact of Medicaid Reimbursement Policies on Pharmaceutical Spending,” 2013-2015.

Co-Investigator. National Cancer Institute R21. “The Welfare Consequences of Oncology Drug Shortages” (PI: Mireille Jacobson), 2013-2015.

Co-Principal Investigator. National Institute on Aging P30. “How Do Large Wealth Shocks Affect Retirement Behavior?” (Co-PI: David Powell), 2012-2013.

TEACHING

The Wharton School, University of Pennsylvania

Instructor, Economics of the Pharmaceutical & Biotech Industries (MBA, UG), Spring 2017-2022

Paul Merage School of Business, University of California at Irvine

Instructor, Microeconomics for Management (MBA), Fall 2016; Winter 2014, 2015; Spring 2014-2016

Department of Economics, University of Maryland

Instructor, Labor Economics (UG), Summer 2008, 2009, 2010

Teaching Assistant, Empirical Microeconomics (PhD), Spring 2008, Fall 2008

INVITED SEMINARS AND CONFERENCES

2023 (includes scheduled): Federal Reserve Bank of Chicago, Bates White Life Sciences Symposium, Conference of the American Society of Health Economists

2022: Lehigh University, Department of Economics; APPAM Research Conference; Conference of the American Society of Health Economists (discussant)

2021: Johns Hopkins University, Health Economics Seminar; Bates White Life Sciences Symposium; ASSA Annual Meeting (discussant), Conference of the American Society of Health Economists (discussant)

2020: University of Toronto, Department of Economics; Cornell University, Virtual Economics of Risky Behaviors Seminar; Indian Institute of Management, Ahmedabad; University of Chicago, Becker Friedman Institute; Cal Poly State University, Orfalea College of Business; ASSA Annual Meeting

2019: NBER Health Care Program Fall Meeting; University of Maryland, Department of Economics; Tulane University, Department of Economics; Temple University, Department of Economics; Bates White Life Sciences Symposium; ASSA Annual Meeting (discussant)

2018: Stanford University, Health Economics Seminar; Conference of the American Society of Health Economists, Emory University (presenter, discussant); American Enterprise Institute, Economics Seminar

2017: BU/Harvard/MIT Health Economics Seminar; UCLA, Seminar on Pharmaceutical Economics and Policy; Rutgers University, Department of Economics; U.S. Food & Drug Administration; Bates White Life Sciences Symposium; Caribbean Health Economics Symposium; ASSA Annual Meeting (HERO Session)

2016: The Wharton School, University of Pennsylvania; University of Southern California, Schaeffer Center for Health Policy and Economics; Bates White Life Sciences Symposium; APPAM Fall Research Conference; Penn-CMU Roybal Retreat; Rice University, Department of Economics (guest lecture); Conference of the American Society of Health Economists (presenter, discussant)

2015: NBER Summer Institute, Health Care; Annual Health Economics Conference, University of Georgia; Midwest Health Economics Conference, University of Iowa; Southern California Conference in Applied Microeconomics, Claremont McKenna College

2014: University of California at Irvine, Department of Economics; Conference of the American Society of Health Economists, University of Southern California (presenter, discussant)

2013: University of California at Irvine, Paul Merage School of Business

2012: University of Chicago, Health Economics Workshop; University of California- Riverside, Department of Economics; Conference of the American Society of Health Economists, University of Minnesota (presenter, discussant); Midwest Health Economics Conference, Indiana University-Purdue University Indianapolis; Southern California Conference in Applied Microeconomics, Claremont McKenna College

2011: Vanderbilt University, Department of Economics; University of Georgia, Department of Economics; University of Colorado- Denver, Department of Economics; University of Colorado- Denver, School of Public Health; University of Pittsburgh, Graduate School of Public Health; RAND Corporation; Mathematica Policy Research; IMPAQ; Precision Health Economics; U.S. Treasury Department; Congressional Budget Office

2010: Conference of the American Society of Health Economists, Cornell University

PROFESSIONAL SERVICE

Reviewer: American Economic Review, Review of Economic Studies, Quarterly Journal of Economics, The Economic Journal, American Economic Journal: Economic Policy, Review of Economics and Statistics, Journal of Health Economics, American Journal of Health Economics, Journal of Public Economics, Journal of Human Resources, Journal of Law and Economics, Journal of Risk and Insurance, Health Economics, Economic Inquiry, Journal of Policy Analysis & Management, International Journal of Health Economics and Management, B.E. Journal of Economic Analysis & Policy, Forum for Health Economics & Policy, Health Services Research, Health Affairs, JAMA, New England Journal of Medicine, Proceedings of the National Academy of Sciences

Conference Program Chair/Committee and Panelist:

Conference of the American Society of Health Economists, 2021 (Program Chair for Prescription Drugs)

Leonard Davis Institute, Conference on “The Cost of a Cure: Creating Sustainable Solutions for Gene and Cell Therapies,” 2018 (Co-Chair of Organizing Committee)

Wharton Healthcare Business Conference, “Balancing Innovation and Access,” 2022 (Panelist)

Duke Margolis Center for Health Policy, “Informing and Refining the Prescription Drug Promotion Research Agenda,” 2021 (Panelist)

University of Pennsylvania, Life Sciences Management (LSM) Program Retreat, “Vaccines and Global Health,” 2020 (Panelist)

University Service:

The Wharton School, University of Pennsylvania

Curriculum Innovation and Review Committee (CIRC), 2021-present

MBA Executive Committee, 2018-2020

Health Care Management Department PhD Admissions, 2017-present

Health Care Management Department Recruitment Committee, 2019-2020

Health Economics Workshop (Co-Organizer), 2018-2022

Penn Health Economics Workshop for PhD Students (Organizer), 2017-2019

Paul Merage School of Business, University of California at Irvine

Master’s Program Committee, 2013-2014

Undergraduate Program Committee, 2014-2016

UC Irvine Subcommittee on International Education, 2015-2016

Wharton Advising:

*Doctoral Student Advising (*Advisor):*

Charles Gray*, (expected graduation 2024)

Sarah Schutz*, (expected graduation 2024)

Ben Chartock*, 2022 (Bentley University)

Molly Frean*, 2021 (Analysis Group)

Sarah Dykstra*, 2020 (Boston Consulting Group)

Lindsey Patterson, 2019 (Harvard Medical School, Postdoc)

Steve Schwab, 2018 (Baylor University)

MBA Student Advising (Independent Study)

Kishore Jayakumar (2017)

J.C. Lopez (2018)

Shane Bouchard (2020)

Elizabeth Morse (2020)

Chris Greeno (2020)

Richard Woo (2020)

Hannah Williams (2021)

Joshua Gertsman (2021)

Undergraduate Student Advising (Senior Thesis)

Samantha Carter (2018)

Hannah Gray (2019)

Maggie Wu (2020)

Emily Cheng (2021)

Rachel Goldstein (2021)

Anchita Batra (2022)

Updated: April 2023