

ABBY ALPERT

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EMPLOYMENT

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

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

PREVIOUS APPOINTMENTS

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

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

EDUCATION

Ph.D. Economics, University of Maryland, 2011
Committee: Mark Duggan (Co-Chair), Judith K. Hellerstein (Co-Chair)
B.S. Mathematics and Economics, University of Chicago, 2003

RESEARCH INTERESTS

Health Economics, Public Economics, Labor Economics

WORKING PAPERS

“Hassle Costs Versus Information: How Do Prescription Drug Monitoring Programs Reduce Opioid Prescribing?” (with Sarah Dykstra and Mireille Jacobson), *Conditional Acceptance at American Economic Journal: Economic Policy*

“Prescription Drug Advertising and Drug Utilization: The Role of Medicare Part D,” (with Darius Lakdawalla and Neeraj Sood), *Revise & Resubmit at Journal of Public Economics*

“Opioid Use and Employment Outcomes: Evidence from the U.S. Military,” (with Steve Schwab and Ben Ukert), *Submitted*

“The Rise in Vertically Integrated PBMs and Medicare Prescription Drug Costs,” (with Charles Gray and Neeraj Sood)

“The Impact of Direct-to-Consumer Advertising on Outpatient Care Utilization,” (with Matthew Eisenberg, Brendan Rabideau, Rosemary Avery, Jeff Niederdeppe, Neeraj Sood)

“Technology, Monopoly, and the Decline of the Viatical Settlements Industry.” 2005. NBER Working Paper No. 11164. (with Neeraj Sood and Jay Bhattacharya)

PUBLICATIONS

Journal Articles

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.

Danea Horn, Abby Alpert, Mark Duggan, Nicolas Garcia, and Mireille Jacobson, 2022. “Biosimilar Competition and Payments in Medicare: The Case of Trastuzumab,” *Accepted at Journal of Clinical Oncology: Oncology Practice*.

Abby Alpert and David Powell, 2020. “Estimating Intensive and Extensive Tax Responsiveness,” *Economic Inquiry*, 58(4): 1855-1873.

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.

Abby Alpert and Mireille Jacobson, 2019. “Impact of Oncology Drug Shortages on Chemotherapy Treatment,” *Clinical Pharmacology and Therapeutics*, 106(2): 415-421.

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.

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.

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.

Abby Alpert. 2016. “The Anticipatory Effects of Medicare Part D on Drug Utilization,” *Journal of Health Economics*, 49: pp 28-45.

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.

- 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.
- 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).
- 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.
- 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.
- 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.
- Geoffrey Joyce, Dana Goldman, Arleen Leibowitz, Abby Alpert, and Yuhua Bao. 2005. “A Socioeconomic Profile of Older Adults with HIV.” 2005. *Journal of Health Care for the Poor and Underserved*, 16: pp 19-28.

Reports and Book Chapter

- 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.
- Abby Alpert, Alan Garber, and Dana Goldman. 2006. “Societal perspective: comment.” Chapter 28 in Futerman, A. and Zimran, A. eds, *Gaucher Disease*, pp 489-497. CRC Press.
- Neeraj Sood, Abby Alpert, Dana Goldman, and Mary Vaiana. 2004. “Should California Regulate Health Insurance Premiums?” 2004. California Health Care Foundation.

Other Published Writing

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

AWARDS, HONORS, AND FELLOWSHIPS

- Wharton Teaching Excellence Award for MBAs, 2020, 2021, 2022
- Wharton Teaching Excellence Award for Undergraduates, 2020, 2021, 2022
- 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

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

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

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

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 EXPERIENCE

University of Pennsylvania, The Wharton School

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

University of California at Irvine, Paul Merage School of Business

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

University of Maryland

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

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

OTHER PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

Research Assistant, Mark Duggan, Univ. of Maryland, 2007, 2009 – 2010

Research Assistant, John Haltiwanger and Seth Sanders, Census Bureau, LEHD, 2007

Research Assistant, Seth Sanders, Univ. of Maryland, 2005 – 2007

Research Assistant, RAND Corporation, Health Economics Group, 2003 – 2005

Research Assistant, Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality (AHRQ), 2002

INVITED SEMINARS AND CONFERENCES

Lehigh University, Department of Economics, 2022

APPAM Research Conference, 2022

Bates White Life Sciences Symposium, 2021

Johns Hopkins University, Health Economics Seminar, 2021

University of Toronto, Department of Economics, 2020

Cornell University, Virtual Economics of Risky Behaviors Seminar, 2020

Indian Institute of Management, Ahmedabad, 2020

University of Chicago, Becker Friedman Institute, 2020

Cal Poly State University, Orfalea College of Business, 2020

ASSA Annual Meeting, 2020

NBER Health Care Program Fall Meeting, 2019

Temple University, Department of Economics, 2019

Bates White Life Sciences Symposium, 2019

University of Maryland, Department of Economics, 2019

Tulane University, Department of Economics, 2019

Stanford University, Health Economics Seminar, 2018

Conference of the American Society of Health Economists, Emory University, 2018

American Enterprise Institute, Economics Seminar, 2018

Caribbean Health Economics Symposium, 2017

UCLA, Seminar on Pharmaceutical Economics and Policy, 2017

Rutgers University, Department of Economics, 2017

U.S. Food & Drug Administration, 2017

Bates White Life Sciences Symposium, 2017

BU/Harvard/MIT Health Economics Seminar, 2017

ASSA Annual Meeting (HERO Session), 2017

APPAM Fall Research Conference, 2016

Penn-CMU Roybal Retreat, 2016

Rice University, Department of Economics (guest lecture), 2016

Conference of the American Society of Health Economists, University of Pennsylvania, 2016

Bates White Life Sciences Symposium, 2016

The Wharton School, University of Pennsylvania, 2016

University of Southern California, Schaeffer Center for Health Policy and Economics, 2016

Annual Health Economics Conference, University of Georgia, 2015

NBER Summer Institute Health Care, 2015

Midwest Health Economics Conference, University of Iowa, 2015
Southern California Conference in Applied Microeconomics, Claremont McKenna College, 2015
Conference of the American Society of Health Economists, University of Southern California, 2014
University of California at Irvine, Department of Economics, 2014
University of California at Irvine, Paul Merage School of Business, 2013
University of Chicago, Health Economics Workshop, 2012
University of California- Riverside, Department of Economics, 2012
Conference of the American Society of Health Economists, University of Minnesota, 2012
Midwest Health Economics Conference, Indiana University-Purdue University Indianapolis, 2012
Southern California Conference in Applied Microeconomics, Claremont McKenna College, 2012
Vanderbilt University, Department of Economics, 2011
University of Georgia, Department of Economics, 2011
University of Colorado- Denver, Department of Economics, 2011
University of Colorado- Denver, School of Public Health, 2011
University of Pittsburgh, Graduate School of Public Health, 2011
RAND Corporation, 2011
Mathematica Policy Research, 2011
IMPAQ, 2011
Precision Health Economics, 2011
U.S. Treasury Department, 2011
Congressional Budget Office, 2010
Conference of the American Society of Health Economists, Cornell University, 2010
University of Maryland, Department of Economics, 2010

Discussant: ASSA Annual Meeting (2019, 2021), Conference of the American Society of Health Economists (2012, 2014, 2016, 2018, 2021, 2022)

PROFESSIONAL MEMBERSHIPS AND ACTIVITIES

Memberships: American Economic Association, American Society of Health Economists

Referee: 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 Organization:

Program Chair for “Prescription Drugs,” Conference of the American Society of Health Economists, 2021

Co-Chair of Organizing Committee for LDI Symposium on “The Cost of a Cure: Creating Sustainable Solutions for Gene and Cell Therapies”, 2018

*Doctoral Student Advising (*Advisor):*

Ben Chartock*, 2022 (Bentley University)

Molly Freat*, 2021 (Analysis Group)

Sarah Dykstra*, 2020 (Boston Consulting Group)

Lindsey Patterson, 2019 (Harvard Medical School, Postdoc)

Steve Schwab, 2018 (Baylor University)