Centre For Health Economics Seminar Series 2018

CASTE DISCRIMINATION IN INDIA – EXPERIMENTAL EVIDENCE FROM THE HEALTHCARE MARKET

Presenter: Choon Wang, Monash University
Date: Wednesday, 11th April 2018
Time: 12.00pm - 1.00pm
Venue: RB Scotton Room
Centre for Health Economics

Abstract
In order to understand caste discrimination against physicians in India, we develop a simple model that provides predictions that allow us to distinguish between taste-based discrimination and statistical discrimination. We then test the model by conducting a field experiment that elicits patients' rankings of physicians of different castes and years of experience. We find that 45 to 80 percent of patients statistically discriminate physicians. The overwhelming size of statistical discrimination has important implications for the use of affirmative action policy.

Presenter
Choon Wang is a senior lecturer in the Department of Economics at Monash University, Australia. Choon obtained his PhD in Economics from the University of California San Diego. Before joining Monash University, Choon worked at the World Bank’s Development Research Group in Washington DC. Choon is interested in a wide range of topics in the areas of the economics of education, labour economics, development economics, public economics, and health economics. His research has been published in international refereed journals, including Management Science, Review of Economics and Statistics, Population and Development Review, Sociology, Journal of Comparative Economics, Journal of Population Economics, and Economics of Education Review

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