

## Centre For Health Economics Seminar Series 2018

# TOWARDS A NEW AGENDA ON PRIVATE HEALTH INSURANCE RESEARCH IN AUSTRALIA

Presenter: Dr Terence Cheng, University of Adelaide  
Date: Thursday 18<sup>th</sup> October 2018  
Time: 12.00pm - 1.00pm  
Venue: RB Scotton Room  
Centre for Health Economics



### Abstract

It is two decades ago that a series of policy incentives (subsidies and mandates) were introduced by the Commonwealth Government to promote the use of private health insurance in Australia. While these measures have been relatively successful – albeit at a large fiscal cost to the government – in stabilising private health insurance membership, significant challenges remain. In this talk, I will begin with a brief review of the developments in the private health insurance market in Australia over the last twenty years, and discuss the current state of affairs. In the second part of the talk, I will present findings from new research examining the effects of income-based mandates (Medicare Levy Surcharge) on the demand for private hospital insurance and its dynamics. This talk is designed to cover a broad range of issues on private health, with the view of fostering discussions on future research on private health insurance in Australia.

### Presenter

Dr Terence Cheng is Senior Lecturer at the School of Economics at University of Adelaide. He is a health economist whose current research interests are in the areas of health care insurance, medical labour markets, and the economics of ageing. Terence has published widely in international peer-reviewed journals in health economics and policy including in the *American Journal of Health Economics*, *Health Economics*, *Health Policy*, *Journal of Health Economics*, and *Social Science and Medicine*. He is a 2018 Australian Endeavour Research Fellow, a research fellow of the Centre for Research on the Economics of Ageing at the Singapore Management University, and an honorary fellow of the Melbourne Institute of Applied Economic and Social Research. He has a PhD from the Australian National University, and Bachelor and Master degrees from the National University of Singapore.

### VISITORS ARE MOST WELCOME

The Seminar Series is free of charge. For further information please phone 9905 0733 or email [che-enquiries@monash.edu](mailto:che-enquiries@monash.edu)

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