

Centre For Health Economics Seminar Series 2018

HOURS WORKED BY GENERAL PRACTITIONERS AND WAITING TIME FOR PRIMARY CARE

Presenter: Megha Swami, Melbourne Institute
Date: Wednesday, 20 June 2018
Time: 12.00pm - 1.00pm
Venue: RB Scotton Room
Centre for Health Economics



Abstract

The decline in the working hours of general practitioners (GPs) is a key factor influencing access to healthcare in many countries. We investigate the effect of changes in hours worked by general practitioners (GPs) on waiting times in primary care using the MABEL longitudinal survey of Australian doctors. We estimate GP fixed effects models for waiting time and use family circumstances to instrument for GP's hours worked. We find that a 10% reduction in hours worked increases average patient waiting time by 12%. Our findings highlight the importance of GPs' labour supply at the intensive margin in determining the length of time patients must wait to see their doctor.

Presenter

Megha Swami is a fifth-year PhD candidate in economics at the University of Melbourne working under the supervision of Professor Anthony Scott, Professor Jenny Williams and Professor Hugh Gravelle. Her doctoral research examines the influence of supply-side factors on waiting times in primary care, particularly the effect of GPs, nurses and incentive schemes.

VISITORS ARE MOST WELCOME

The Seminar Series is free of charge. For further information please phone 9905 0733 or email che-enquiries@monash.edu

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