

## Centre For Health Economics Seminar Series 2017

# MORTALITY AND THE BUSINESS CYCLE: EVIDENCE FROM INDIVIDUAL AND AGGREGATED DATA

Presenter: Prof Ulf Gerdtham, Lund University, Sweden  
Date: Wednesday 1 Nov 2017  
Time: 12.00pm - 1.00pm  
Venue: RB Scotton Room  
Centre for Health Economics



### Abstract

There has been much interest recently in the relationship between economic conditions and mortality, with some studies showing that mortality is pro-cyclical, while others find the opposite. Some suggest that the aggregation level of analysis (e.g. individual vs. regional) matters. We use both individual and aggregated data on a sample of 20-64 year-old Swedish men from 1993 to 2007. Our results show that the association between the business cycle and mortality does not depend on the level of analysis: the sign and magnitude of the parameter estimates are similar at the individual level and the aggregate (county) level; both showing pro-cyclical mortality.

### Presenter

Ulf Gerdtham is Professor in Health Economics at the Department of Economics and at the Department of Clinical Sciences at Lund University as well as a research leader at the Swedish Institute for Health Economics (IHE). Professor Gerdtham research agenda focuses on exploring the relationship between economic factors and individuals' health-related behavior. He is particularly interested in measuring and explaining the sources of income-related inequality in health. He is also interested in the consequences of risky behavior and chronic diseases. His other research focus is on the economic evaluations of health interventions, health system effects on health care costs and productivity. He has published in journals such as: Journal of Health Economics, Journal of Risk and Uncertainty, Health Economics, Economics and Human Biology, Social Science & Medicine, Journal of Population Economics, Journal of Human Resources and American Journal of Public Health.

### VISITORS ARE MOST WELCOME

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