



ACERH

AUSTRALIAN CENTRE FOR ECONOMIC RESEARCH ON HEALTH

RESEARCH FORUM: Risk-equalisation in health insurance markets – design, operation and future issues in Australia, Ireland, South Africa and Switzerland

Tuesday, 1 September 2009

Mills Room

4th Floor, The Chancelry

The Australian National University, Canberra

Program

9.30	Welcome <i>Jim Butler (Director, ACERH)</i>
9.35 – 10.10	Risk-equalisation in Australian private health insurance markets: design and operation of the current ex-post scheme <i>Luke Connelly (Professor, University of Queensland)</i>
10.10 – 10.45	Risk-equalisation in voluntary health insurance markets in three countries: the cases of Australia, Ireland and South Africa <i>Francesco Paolucci (Research Fellow, ACERH ANU)</i>
10.45 – 11.15	Morning Tea
11.15 – 12.00	Risk-equalisation in mandatory health insurance markets in Switzerland: fine tuning of health insurance regulation implies unhealthy consequences for an individual insurer <i>Peter Zweifel (Professor, University of Zurich)</i>
12.00 – 12.30am	Panel Session: Future issues for risk equalisation in Australia <i>Jim Butler (Director, ACERH)</i> <i>Penny Shakespeare (Assistant Secretary, DoHA)</i> <i>Michael Bassingthwaighe (CEO, Peoplecare)</i>
12.30 – 12.45pm	Discussion and Close

There is no charge for attendance. However, please RSVP to *Rowena Harvey* (T: 02 6125 3688; E: ACERH@anu.edu.au) by Wednesday, 26 August 2009, for catering purposes.

Parking

A campus map for ANU can viewed on the University's web site (<http://campusmap.anu.edu.au/>). Visitors to the campus are advised to take a taxi to the venue if possible.

Speaker Profiles

Luke Connelly

Luke Connelly is Professor of Health Economics at The University of Queensland (UQ) and holds appointments in the Faculty of Health Sciences (School of Medicine) and the Faculty of Business, Economics and Law (School of Economics). He is the Director of ACERH (UQ) and is an Associate Director of the Centre of National Research on Disability and Rehabilitation Medicine (CONROD). His primary academic interests are in health care financing, health insurance, and the operation of health sector markets. He is also interested in the economics of injury, especially with respect to injury and disability insurance and compensation (e.g. workers' compensation and personal injury schemes).

Francesco Paolucci

Francesco Paolucci is Research Fellow at ACERH at The Australian National University. He holds a PhD from Erasmus University, Rotterdam. His teaching and research interests include health insurance, regulated competition, risk equalisation, risk selection and international comparisons of health care financing schemes. His previous and current appointments are Assistant Director of the European Master in Law and Economics at University of Bologna, Assistant Director of the Master in Health Economics, Policy and Law at Erasmus University, and Coordinator of the course in "Competition policy in the health care sector" at Erasmus University.

Peter Zweifel

Peter Zweifel graduated in economics from the University of Zurich in 1974 with a dissertation on empirical research into consumer demand in Switzerland. He discovered health economics as a brand new field of research during his stay in Madison at the University of Wisconsin in 1974-1975. After one year service as an invited professor at the University of the Armed Forces in Munich, he became an Assistant Professor of International Economics at the University of Zurich in 1983, and Professor of Economics in 1990. A second edition of his textbook on health economics has recently been published (Zweifel P, Breyer F and Kifmann M, *Health Economics*, Boston: Springer).

Jim Butler

Jim Butler is Professor of Health Economics at The Australian National University and foundation Director of ACERH. He has a PhD in economics from the University of Queensland and over 30 years research and consulting experience in health economics. His consulting experience includes projects for numerous government bodies and private sector organisations, including the Commonwealth Grants Commission in Australia and the World Bank. His research interests include health insurance, health care financing, hospitals costs and economic evaluation.

Penny Shakespeare

Penny Shakespeare has been Assistant Secretary of the Private Health Insurance Branch, Australian Government Department of Health and Ageing, since November 2006. Prior to this she was Director of Public Sector Management for the ACT Government, and headed the ACT Office of Industrial Relations for three years. Ms Shakespeare also worked as an industrial lawyer for the Department of Employment and Workplace Relations, and was a member of the National Occupational Health and Safety Commission from 2002-2005. She was ACT President of the Community and Public Sector Union from 1999-2001 and has a Masters degree in International Law from the ANU.

Michael Bassingthwaight

Michael has been with Peoplecare as CEO since 1982 and has been instrumental in driving the direction of the company. He has been a key player in private health insurance in Australia over the last 27 years having served in several different CEO positions, and has played a major role in representing the interests of smaller funds within the industry. His other current appointments include: Australian Health Service Alliance (AHSa) – Co-founder and current Director; HAMB Systems – Chairman of the Board; Health Insurance Restricted Membership Association Australia (HIRMAA) – Vice-President; Defence Health – Chairman of the Board; NSW Exceptional Drugs Committee – Chairman; and Illawarra Business Chamber – Director.