



ACERH

AUSTRALIAN CENTRE FOR ECONOMIC RESEARCH ON HEALTH

RESEARCH FORUM: *Private Health Insurance in Australia*

Wednesday, 28 March 2006

E.S. Myers Lecture Theatre, The University of Queensland
3rd floor, Mayne Medical School Building
Herston Road, Herston

Program

10.00am	Welcome <i>A/Prof. Luke Connelly (Director, ACERH UQ)</i>
10.05-10.35am	Adverse selection in Australian private health insurance <i>Professor Jim Butler (Director, ACERH ANU)</i>
10.35-11.05am	Private Health Insurance Dynamics in Australia: What is the True Price of Private Health Insurance? <i>A/Professor Luke Connelly (ACERH UQ)</i>
11.05-11.35am	Morning Tea
11.35am-12.05pm	Community Rating and the Costs of Adverse Selection: Evidence from Australia <i>Professor Thomas Buchmueller, University of Michigan, CHERE and NBER</i>
12.05-12.15pm	Discussion and Close

There is no charge for attendance. However, please RSVP *Robyn Clapshaw* (r.clapshaw@uq.edu.au or Tel 3365 5560) for catering purposes

Parking

Limited visitor's parking is available in front of the Mayne Medical School Building: *(Please ask at Reception for a visitor's parking permit to place on your dashboard).*

Parking is also available in the multi-storey car parks adjacent to the Royal Brisbane and Women's (RBWH) and Children's (RCH) Hospitals. The RCH car park is convenient to the venue.

Speaker Profiles

James R G Butler

Jim Butler is Professor of health economics at The Australian National University (ANU) and Director of the Australian Centre for Economic Research on Health (ACERH). Prior to taking up his current post in 2005, he was Deputy Director of the National Centre for Epidemiology and Population Health (NCEPH) at ANU. In 1997, he spent six months as Visiting Associate Professor in the Health Care Systems Department in The Wharton School at the University of Pennsylvania. Professor Butler holds a PhD in economics from The University of Queensland, and has had a long-standing interest in health economics. He has authored and edited several books including the following titles: *Federalism and Public Policy: Intergovernmental Grants and Health Care Financing*, *Hospital Cost Analysis* and (with Dr Erich Kliewer) *Hospital Morbidity Patterns and Costs of Immigrants in Australia*. Professor Butler's research interests include health care financing and economic evaluation. His recent research on private health insurance in Australia has encompassed issues such as the price elasticity of demand for private health insurance, and the existence of a regulation-induced adverse selection death spiral in private health insurance since the introduction of Medicare. He has also worked as a consultant on health financing and health insurance in a number of Asia-Pacific countries for the World Bank and other agencies.

Luke B Connelly

Luke Connelly is Associate Professor of Health Economics at the University of Queensland, where he is Director of the Australian Centre for Economic Research on Health (ACERH UQ) and Associate Director of the Centre of National Research on Disability and Rehabilitation Medicine (CONROD). His previous academic appointments include posts in Schools of Public Health, Economics and Finance, and Business. He has a PhD in economics from The University of Queensland. A/Professor Connelly's research interests include the economics of insurance and compensation schemes and, more generally, health economics and policy. He is the author (with Doessel) of a book *Medicare and General Practice: An Economic Analysis* and his recent articles include papers in the *International Journal of Health Care Finance and Economics*, *Journal of Health Care Finance*, *Health Economics*, *The Geneva Papers on Risk and Insurance*, *Controlled Clinical Trials* and the *European Journal of Health Economics*. For a number of years he has also participated in national policy formulation including cervical screening, the management of screen-detected abnormalities. Recently, he was part of an international consortium that modelled the cost-effectiveness of preventing cervical cancer with national HPV vaccination strategies. One of these options has since been adopted by the Australian Government.

Thomas C Buchmueller

Tom Buchmueller is a Professor at the University of Michigan's Stephen Ross School of Business, where he holds the Waldo O. Hildebrand Chair in Risk Management and Insurance. Prior to joining the Michigan faculty he taught in the business school at the University of California-Irvine. Since September 2006, he has been at the Centre for Health Economics Research and Evaluation (CHERE) at the University of Technology Sydney as a Packer Policy Fellow through the Australian Department of Health and Ageing. Professor Buchmueller's main research interests are related to the economics of health insurance and related public policy issues. His research as a Packer Fellow focuses on the relationship between community rating and risk selection in Australia's private health insurance market. Professor Buchmueller received his B.A. in Economics from Carleton College in 1985 and his Ph.D. in Economics from the University of Wisconsin, Madison in 1992. He is a Research Associate of the National Bureau of Economic Research and has been a visiting scholar at University of York (UK), INSEAD and CREDES in France, and the Federal Reserve Bank of San Francisco. From 2002 to 2006, he was a Deputy Editor of *Medical Care*. He is currently a Deputy Editor of the *Journal of Economics and Management Strategy* and is on the Editorial Board of *Inquiry*.