



# ACERH

AUSTRALIAN CENTRE FOR ECONOMIC RESEARCH ON HEALTH

## RESEARCH FORUM: Risk-equalisation in health insurance markets

Tuesday, 10 June 2008

Innovations Building Lecture Theatre

Building 124, Eggleston Road

The Australian National University, Canberra

### Program

9.00am	<b>Welcome</b> <i>Jim Butler (Director, ACERH ANU)</i>
9.05 – 9.35am	<b>Risk-equalisation in mandatory health insurance markets: the case of Israel</b> <i>Amir Shmueli (Professor, University of Jerusalem)</i>
9.35 – 10.05am	<b>Risk-equalisation in voluntary health insurance markets: the case of Ireland</b> <i>John Armstrong (Head, Actuarial Services, Vhi Healthcare, Ireland)</i>
10.05 – 10.30am	<b>Morning Tea</b>
10.30 – 11.00am	<b>Risk-equalisation in voluntary health insurance markets: the case of Australia</b> <i>Francesco Paolucci (Research Fellow, ACERH ANU)</i>
11.00 – 11.30am	<b>An historical perspective on risk-equalisation for private health insurance in Australia</b> <i>Paul Collins (Manager, Risk Equalisation and Statistics, Private Health Insurance Administration Council)</i>
11.30 – 12.15pm	<b>Recent risk-equalisation reform proposals in Australia</b> <i>Andrew Gale (Chief Actuary, Medibank Private) and David Watson (Technical Manager, HCF)</i>
12.15 – 12.45pm	<b>Discussion and Close</b>

### Speaker Profiles

#### *Amir Shmueli*

Amir Shmueli is a professor of health economics with the Hebrew University-Hadassah School of Public Health in Jerusalem, Israel, and a senior researcher with the Gertner Institute of Health Policy Research.

He has been the Israeli Country Coordinator in the Risk Adjustment Network (RAN) since its inception. He served on several public committees which have shaped the reformed Israeli health system. In addition to capitation contracts and risk-adjustment, Amir's recent main research interests include solidarity in health care, equity and inequality in health, and health technology adoption and diffusion.

### ***John Armstrong***

John is Head of Actuarial Services, Vhi Healthcare, Ireland and is a health economist. His research interests are in the field of health financing specialising in health insurance including risk equalisation and micro-health insurance. He is a Fellow of both the Society of Actuaries in Ireland and the Institute of Actuaries, and also acts as Chief Technical Advisor on the 'Social Re' project, an international initiative which aims to increase access to health insurance in low-income countries. He lectures in Health Economics at the Institute of Public Administration, Dublin and he also has an academic affiliation with the Erasmus University in Rotterdam, the Netherlands where he is an adjunct lecturer on 'Competition Law and Health Policy'. He has acted as a health policy advisor in many countries for the World Bank and other International Agencies.

### ***Francesco Paolucci***

Francesco Paolucci is Research Fellow at the Australian Centre for Economic Research on Health (ACERH) at the Australian National University (ANU). Prior to taking up his current post in 2007, he wrote his PhD thesis "The design of basic and supplementary health care financing schemes: implications for efficiency and affordability" at Erasmus University Rotterdam. His teaching and research interests include health insurance, regulated competition, risk equalisation, risk selection and international comparison 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 Rotterdam, Coordinator of the course in "Competition policy in the health care sector" at Erasmus University Rotterdam and Member of the iHEA Scientific Committee.

### ***Paul Collins***

Paul has worked for several years in economic and statistical research including four years as an Adviser to the Government of Vanuatu and four years conducting research for the Centre for Independent Studies in Sydney. He has also provided consultancy services to the Australian Trade Commission. Paul has worked for the Australian Private Hospitals Association and for a major health fund. He is an economist/statistician by profession with a Master of Economics degree. He studied statistics as a second major in his under-graduate degree. Paul is also a Graduate of the Australian Institute of Company Directors. Paul is currently Manager, Risk Equalisation and Statistics, at the Private Health Insurance Administration Council. This role encompasses the administration of risk equalisation and compiling and disseminating industry statistics.

### ***Andrew Gale and David Watson***

Andrew Gale is the Chief Actuary of Medibank Private. He first became involved in the private health insurance industry in 1991, and has written numerous research papers on various aspects of the private health insurance industry. David Watson is Technical Manager at HCF. He has had more than 30 years experience in private health insurance, mainly in areas dealing with actuarial management and the governing legislation. Andrew and David have worked together for more than ten years on a variety of projects - submissions to Government, newsletters, presentations, as well as contributing to the professional development of actuaries in private health insurance.

There is no charge for attendance. However, please RSVP to *Rowena Harvey* (T: 02 6125 3688; E: [ACERH@anu.edu.au](mailto:ACERH@anu.edu.au)) 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. The closest Pay Parking is at University House (pay at the meter in the quadrangle).