Health and Aging: the Sustainability and Equity Trade off

2nd Workshop APHEC

Genova

September 10-11, 2021
CALL FOR PAPERS

The Centre for Health Economics Aphec is organizing the 2nd Aphec (AdvancedPharmaco&HealthEconomics – www.aphec.it) Workshop which will be held at the Department of Economics, University of Genoa, September 10-11, 2021.

This year the workshop will be focussed on aging-related issues. Indeed, over the last decades, the simultaneous decrease in mortality and fertility rates has produced a progressive aging in most industrialized countries. Ageing is producing a pervasive change in the traditional patterns of care and in the costs of investment in health capital. Public as well as privately financed health care systems will have to face several challenges, namely:

a) the long-run sustainability of health care i.e. health care costs may increase because of age while resources may decrease because of the shape of the population pyramid;
b) the effects of ageing on the demand for health care services i.e. although ageing may not cause an increase in health care expenditure, it will certainly affect its composition;
c) the need of finding alternative sources to finance long term care expenditure;
d) the difficulty of ensuring equity of access. When public resources are limited, private solutions might be encouraged and this may increase socio-economic related inequalities in access to health care;
e) as predicted by the Grossman Model, health capital depreciation increases with age and increases the costs of investment in health capital among elderly. This may foster an increase in the adoption of risky behaviours especially in this segment of population;
f) new technologies may improve health care, but some of them (for example telemedicine) may require literacy skills that may depend on age and socio-economic characteristics. Access to these technologies may increase disparities.

The workshop will focus on ageing and chronicity, with a focus to specific themes such as: i. equity, innovation and sustainability of health and social care expenditure; ii. chronical diseases and new forms of care; iii. long term care finance; iv. adoption of risky behaviours among elderly.

In this environment, economic analysis plays a crucial role in supporting decision makers by providing insights and informative tools for the definition of new governance models and more equitable and efficient resources’ allocations. Our objective is to cover a broad spectrum of approaches to aging process, including theoretical, empirical, and experimental research.
The topics that we propose to explore are:

- long term care finance;
- early interventions and later life outcomes;
- interactions between health and social care;
- welfare effects of long term care reform;
- equity in health care utilization and medicines consumption;
- the adoption of telemedicine devices and its potential effect on equity of care across age and socio-economic groups;
- risky behaviours among elderly.

**Format**

The workshop will run over two days and comprise around **fifteen papers**. There are no parallel sessions and **forty minutes** (30 min presentation, 7 min discussion and 3 min floor discussion) will be dedicated to each paper, with presentations by the author and a nominated discussant. The number of participants is limited to around 25 people. Participants are expected to attend the entire meeting and take an active part as either author, discussant or chairperson.

**Keynote lectures by**

Joerg Baten - University of Tuebingen, CESifo and CEPR, Germany (Title, to be announced).
Rita Santos - Centre for Health Economics of the University of York, UK (Title, to be announced).

**Scientific Committee**

- Joerg Baten - University of Tuebingen, CESifo and CEPR, Germany
- Joan Costa-Font - London School of Economics and Political Science LSE London UK
- Cinzia Di Novi - University of Pavia, Italy
- Michael Kuhn - Vienna Institute of Demography, Vienna, Austria
- Maarten Lindeboom - VU University Amsterdam, Netherlands
- Rosella Levaggi - University of Brescia, Italy
- Lucia Leporatti - University of Genova, Italy
- Marcello Montefiori - University of Genova, Italy
- Rita Santos - Centre for Health Economics of the University of York, UK
**Timeline**

The deadline to submit a paper is **June 30, 2021**. Preliminary versions of papers are accepted, but full papers will be given priority. Papers have to be sent to the following email addresses in pdf format: aphec@unige.it and aphec.unige@gmail.com.

A selection of papers presented at the 1st workshop have been published on a special issue of *Health Economics* ([https://onlinelibrary.wiley.com/toc/10991050/2020/29/S1](https://onlinelibrary.wiley.com/toc/10991050/2020/29/S1)).

Also for the 2nd Aphec workshop, accepted papers will be eligible for inclusion in a special issue of *JEBO - Journal of Economic Behavior & Organization* ([https://www.journals.elsevier.com/journal-of-economic-behavior-and-organization](https://www.journals.elsevier.com/journal-of-economic-behavior-and-organization)).

Guest Editors: Cinzia Di Novi - University of Pavia (Italy) and Rita Santos - Centre for Health Economics of the University of York, UK

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**Memo**

Accommodation for active participants for up to two nights will be covered by the conference. All participants will have to cover their own travel expenses.

**Local Organizer**

Marcello Montefiori, Emilia Barili, Carolina Bruzzi, Lucia Leporatti, Luca Persico, Paola Ramassa

**Information**

All relevant information will be made available on the conference website ([www.aphec.it](http://www.aphec.it)) in due time. You may also contact the local organizers at aphec@unige.it
LOCATION
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