Seminario de Microeconomía Aplicada - Geographic Variation in Healthcare Utilization: The Role of Physicians

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Abstract: We study the role of physicians in driving geographic variation of US healthcare utilization. We estimate a model that separates variation in average utilization of Medicare beneficiaries due to physicians, non-physician supply side factors, and patient demand. The model is identified by migration of patients and physicians across areas, as well as by variation in within-area matching. We find that physicians vary greatly in the intensity with which they treat otherwise similar patients, and that at least a third of geographic differences in healthcare utilization can be explained by differences in average physician treatment intensity. Conservatively, physicians are three times as important as non-physician supply-side factors in explaining geographic variation. Around three-fifths of physicians' role comes from differences across areas in physician practice styles within the same specialty, while the other two-fifths reflects differences across areas in physician specialty mix.

Acerca del expositor: Peter Hull Professor of Economics at Brown University, a Faculty Research Fellow at the National Bureau of Economic Research, and an Editor at the Review of Economics and Statistics. I study topics in applied econometrics, crime, discrimination, education, foster care, and healthcare.

Tiempo de exposición: 1 hora

Fuente: https://www.banrep.gov.co/es/seminario-microeconomia-aplicada-geographic-variation-healthcare-utilization-role-physicians