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The IER Seminar in Empirical Economics

We would like to invite you to the **Empirical Seminar** series organized by the Institute of Economic Research, Slovak Academy of Sciences, Šancová 56 that will be held in hybrid form (online and at the library of the Institute of Economic Research, Slovak Academy of Sciences). The seminar will take place on **September 11th, 2023 at 1.00 p.m. (CET).**

The speaker will be **_Jakub Červený_** (Institute for Health Care Analyses, Ministry of Health of the Slovak Republic & Institute of Economic Research, Slovak Academy of Sciences, Slovakia).

The topic of the seminar is: **_Drug Copayments, Child Outcomes, and Intra-family Spillovers_**

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Abstract
Reducing out-of-pocket costs of medication has been shown to lead to higher use initiation rates in childhood. Less is known, however, about the potentially asymmetric effects of increases in such costs, resulting from a loss in insurance coverage. This paper looks at the expiration of prescription drug copay waivers for children in Slovakia to investigate changes in pharmaceutical use resulting from increasing out-of-pocket costs. Leveraging age thresholds for copay waivers, this paper uses event study analyses to show that increases in out-of-pocket costs reduce prescription drug use, as well as average spending. Using a dataset capturing the universe of prescriptions filled between 2016–2018, we are further able to understand these effects among both chronic and non-chronic users. We trace the effects of these changes in prescription drug use to down-stream health consequences for children, as measured by GP visits and hospitalizations. Linking these data to social security records, we are further able to understand spillovers onto parental health and employment.

The seminar will be co-chaired by Mária Širaňová.

Link: https://teams.microsoft.com/l/meetup-join/19%3aN1DbFP4xWw8up59Qx5Y-CJmz8Q-Y4jniJZWjqs6Q9RA1%40thread.tacv2/1693376845847?context=%7b%22Tid%22%3a%2217c92093-1286-4bb4-b6ea-02f3119dd49c%22%2c%22Oid%22%3a%22dab7fd44-1715-4397-8059-4adfa112d04a%22%7d