Health Economics

Department of International Health
The Department of international Health is committed to helping the world’s most vulnerable and disadvantaged people improve their health and well-being, wherever they live.

Our global health economics work is focused on applying economic thinking and tools to the health challenges faced by low- and middle-income countries (LMICs). Our faculty have expertise in a range of areas – health care financing, economic evaluation, behavioral economics, contingent valuation, econometric methods, impact evaluation of health programs, and economic development. Faculty have rich experience working in a range of LMICs and actively engage with global development institutions such as the World Bank and WHO, as well as national governments. We apply economic methods to ensure that health systems in resource-poor contexts can serve their populations in an efficient, effective and affordable manner.

Meet Some of Our Health Economics Faculty

Antonio Trujillo, PhD
Associate Professor
Dr. Trujillo is a health economist with expertise in economics of aging, chronic conditions and applied econometrics. He is director of the Master’s in Global Health Economics program with research interests in the risk behaviors, management and prevention of chronic conditions. One of his goals is to design effective public health programs to motivate individuals with diabetes and hypertension to engage in self-management. He is also exploring how an economic view of fairness can inform regulation on price transparency and gouging in drug prices.

Select publications

Cristina Garcia, PhD
Assistant Scientist
Dr. Garcia’s work focuses on evaluating the broader economic impact of vaccines, including estimating disease and economic burden of vaccine preventable illness, evaluating approaches to increasing vaccine demand, and measuring the economic impact of vaccine introduction. Her research interests are in measuring health system inequities, understanding the impact of out-of-pocket health expenditures on families, and evaluating health systems approaches to financial risk protection and vaccine access.

Select Publications

Krishna D. Rao, PhD
Assistant Professor
Dr. Rao’s work focuses on health systems in low- and middle-income countries. Within the area of health systems, he works largely in three areas: human resources, health services research and health financing. His research goals center around finding ways to equitably improve access to affordable health services in resource-poor areas.

Select Publications
Andres Vecino, MD, MEcon, PhD
Assistant Scientist
Dr. Vecino is a health economics faculty in the Health Systems Program and a researcher with the Johns Hopkins International Injury Research Unit (JH-IIRU). Dr. Vecino’s primary research interests focus on the economics of prevention of NCDI, and how evidence can inform and influence policy. Dr Vecino holds a global seat at the Board of Health Systems Global.

Select Publications


Bryan Patenaude, ScD
Assistant Professor
Dr. Patenaude is a health economist with research interests in understanding health system strength, sustainability, and efficiency in low- and lower-middle-income countries, applying behavioral economics to the economic evaluation of public health policy, incentive design for the health workforce, and understanding the medium- and long-term causal impact of health investments on non-health sectors.

Select Publications


New Degree Program
Master of Health Science (MHS) in Global Health Economics
a 9-month academic program that teaches students how to use economic tools to help solve pressing global health problems

Learn how
- Health economic principles are used to address global issues such as migration, displaced persons, climate change and pandemics
- Health economics can be used to promote healthy lifestyles, positive health outcomes, and equitable access to care

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Alan Sorkin, PhD
Adjunct Professor
Sorkin’s research focuses on the economics of health care in developing countries and, more specifically, health and economic development.

Select Publications

David Bishai, MD, PhD
Professor
Dr. Bishai’s major research interest is the economics of public health practice. Bishai’s current projects focus on the connection between the operations at national, state and local health departments and improved population health. He is currently conducting work on public health in Qatar, Bangladesh, Nepal, Sri Lanka, Thailand, India, China, Saudi Arabia and Egypt.

Select Publications