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Congress Update



You Can Still Register to Join the 2023 IHEA Congress Virtually!

In just over one week, we will welcome well over a thousand health economists from around the world to Cape Town for the 15th IHEA World Congress on Health Economics. The program will provide the opportunity to engage around the latest methodological developments, recent

research findings, and the implications of this research for policy and practice in person again. There are also several social events and other opportunities to network and catch up with those you haven't seen in years.

We recognize that many who would have liked to attend are not able to for various reasons. To increase access to the amazing line-up of pre-congress and main congress sessions, we will have Zoom platforms in every congress venue for live remote attendance and to record the sessions. We will also stream the two plenary sessions.

To attend virtually and gain access to the links for each session's Zoom, please register [here](#) by **July 6, 2023**. Virtual attendance fees are:

- \$40 for Students, Early Career Researchers and those from Low- or Middle-Income Countries
- \$80 for Others

Not only will you be able to access sessions live and post questions/comments in the chat box, you will also be able to view any of the recordings of the nearly 250 pre-congress and congress sessions. Recordings will be posted on the virtual congress platform shortly after the congress.

Those registered for the on-site congress will also be able to access these recordings. So if you can't make it to a particular session, you can view it later.

Review the Online Program!

Our mobile application will be launching in the coming days! For now you can review the web based program [here](#) to find out everything you need to know about the Congress.

There is Still Time to Register For Pre-Congress Sessions!

An exciting Pre-Congress session program is being offered on Saturday July 8th and Sunday July 9th, which we encourage all congress delegates to attend! While some sessions are full, there are a number that still have space - register before it's too late! It is free to attend all pre-congress sessions if you have registered to attend the Congress in-person or virtually!

We encourage you to browse all pre-congress sessions [here](#) and register [here](#)!

IHEA Special Taiwan Virtual Session: Accelerating Digital Health: The Digital Transformation Of Taiwan's Single-Payer National Health Insurance

Date: Friday, July 7, 2023

Time: 4:00 PM – 5:30 PM CST (Taiwan)/10:00 AM – 11:30 AM SAST/ 9:00 AM – 10:30 AM BST
This event is taking place virtually only.

Description: Taiwan's universal health coverage system, the National Health Insurance, is a single-payer system that covers Taiwan's entire population of 23.8 million with comprehensive benefits without the long waiting times that have long plagued many single-payer systems, at a cost far lower than the OECD average for national health expenditure of 9.7% of GDP in 2020. Public satisfaction with Taiwan's NHI is over 90% today. A major contributing factor to the high efficiency of Taiwan's single-payer NHI is the NHI's powerful IT system, administered by the government-run NHI Administration of the Ministry of Health of Taiwan.

This session focuses on the impact of the digital transformation of Taiwan's single-payer NHI on health care in Taiwan. The session begins with a brief introduction of Taiwan's NHI by the session chair and moderator Tsung-Mei Cheng of Princeton University, USA, followed by keynote remarks by Dr. Chung-Liang Shih, Director-General of Taiwan's NHI Administration, on digital healthcare in Taiwan, including its impact on rural health care, care during the COVID-19 pandemic, home-based health care, and disease management. Discussions by a panel of international health policy experts will follow Dr. Shih's presentation, followed by an audience Q&A.

[Register here.](#)

Health Workforce SIG in Cape Town

The Health Workforce Special Interest Group will be having a no-host dinner after the scheduled meeting in Cape Town on Monday night. Please sign up at this [link](#) if you'd like to join us! We'll finalize the reservation **on June 30**.

Economics of Child Health & Wellbeing SIG in Cape Town

Will you be at IHEA in Cape Town? If so, join us for the Economics of Children's Health and Wellbeing Special Interest Group meeting!

Date: Monday, July 10, 2023

Time: 5:15-6:15 PM

Location: Room 1.41 (CTICC) at the Congress in Cape Town or online.

To access the meeting online, you will need to pay to attend the Congress, which is only US\$40. We hope to see you either in person or online at that time!

What's on in Economics of Children's Health and Wellbeing at the IHEA 2023 Congress? Here is a sample of some organised sessions.

Please see the [congress program](#) for the full list of presentations and SIG meetings!

Call for publication of papers from the 15th World Congress on Health Economics in two special journal issues

We are excited to announce a call for papers for two journal special issues linked to the International Health Economics Association's (IHEA) Congress, one in collaboration with *Social Science and Medicine* and the other with *Social Science and Medicine Health Systems*. In both cases, papers submitted must be based on research presented at the 15th World Congress on Health Economics, which will be held from 8th to 12th July 2023 in Cape Town, South Africa. Papers accepted by these journals will be published as special issues from the Congress.

The primary aim of both of these special issues is to encourage health economists with limited previous opportunities, to publish in an international peer-reviewed journal. Having two special issues enhances this opportunity and allows for publication of a broader array of research.

Please note that there are different themes and criteria for inclusion in each of these special issues; please read the two calls below carefully to identify the most appropriate special issue to submit to. We also recommend that you review the specifications of these different journals – [SSM](#) and [SSM HS](#). The same research should not be submitted to both special issues and to allow as many as possible to benefit from this publication opportunity, we strongly encourage researchers to only submit one paper.

Early Career Researcher (ECR) led research is an important target for both special issues. ECRs intending to submit papers for either of the special issues are encouraged to attend the pre-congress session on Saturday 8th July where selected ECR papers will be discussed in detail, including advice from journal editors for publication, and/or the pre-congress session on Sunday 9th July: How to get published in academic journals - an introduction.

Read more on the two special journal issues, and how you can contribute, [here](#).

Request for Volunteers to Provide Training on Cost-Effectiveness or Policy Analysis for African Professionals

The Economics of Children's Health and Wellbeing Special Interest Group is seeking individuals who are passionate about cost-effectiveness or policy analysis and willing to volunteer their time and expertise to conduct free training sessions in Africa. Strengthening the skills and knowledge of professionals in cost-effectiveness and policy analysis is essential for improving decision-making processes and ensuring the optimal allocation of limited resources. Through our initiative, we aim to empower individuals in Africa with the tools and techniques necessary to evaluate the effectiveness and efficiency of policies and programs.

The training sessions would cover a range of topics, including:

- Introduction to cost-effectiveness and policy analysis methodologies.
- Frameworks for evaluating the efficiency and impact of policies and programs.
- Data collection, analysis, and interpretation techniques.

- Case studies and practical exercises to enhance hands-on learning.

The duration of each training session can be flexible, ranging from one day to a number of weeks, depending on your availability and the depth of the topics covered.

By volunteering to share your expertise, you will play a pivotal role in equipping African professionals with the necessary skills to make evidence-based decisions and drive positive change in their respective fields. Moreover, you will have the opportunity to engage with enthusiastic and motivated individuals who are eager to learn and contribute to the development of their communities.

If you are interested in joining our initiative as a volunteer trainer, or if you have any questions or concerns, please do not hesitate to contact us at apfenny@ug.edu.gh and/or draishamoolla@gmail.com. We would be more than happy to provide additional information and discuss the details of your involvement.

2023 IHEA Adam Wagstaff Prize Winner Announced!



The Adam Wagstaff prize is awarded to the best IHEA congress paper on the economics of healthcare financing or delivery in a low- or middle-income country(ies) that is written and presented by a researcher from a low- or middle-income country (LMIC). This prestigious prize is awarded to honour Adam's lifelong commitment to research that analyzes, promotes and monitors health system efficiency and equity in LMICs and improves the health of the world's poorest.

IHEA is thrilled to announce this year's winner is Lucy Xiaolu Wang for her paper "Procurement Institutions and Essential Drug Supply in Low and Middle-Income Countries" - we invite you to extend your congratulations to Lucy on this well-deserved achievement. If you will be in Cape Town for congress, [you can attend her session](#) on July 12 at 1:30pm SAST.

Lucy Xiaolu Wang is a tenure-track Assistant Professor at the University of Massachusetts Amherst, a Faculty Research Fellow at the Max Planck Institute for Innovation and Competition, Germany, and a Faculty Associate at the Canadian Centre for Health Economics. Her research focuses on the economics of innovation & digitization in health care markets (national and global), particularly in the biotech, pharmaceutical, and digital health industries. Dr. Wang earned her Ph.D. in economics at Cornell University, her M.A. in economics at Duke University, and her B.A. in economics (specialty: insurance) at Central University of Finance and Economics in China.

As an early career scholar who originated from a small city in China, Dr. Wang aims to better understand and improve healthcare financing, delivery, technological innovation, and access in LMIC (Low and Middle-Income Countries/Country). Specifically, she works on two lines of research centering on LMIC healthcare.

First, the performance of novel institutions in improving healthcare financing and delivery. Dr. Wang has published work and ongoing projects examining the effectiveness of the Medicines Patent Pool as a joint licensing organization in facilitating generic drug diffusion and spillover effects on upstream innovation. She also investigates the role of procurement institutions and essential drug supply in LMIC with a complementary analytical angle.

Second, Dr. Wang studies health care technological innovation and digitization. Dr. Wang has ongoing research projects on digital interventions in the health sectors with LMIC country cases and policy discussions. She also works on understanding the current drug patent reforms in China.

A special thanks goes to the Adam Wagstaff Committee members: John Ataguba (University of Cape Town), Edwine Barasa (KEMRI-Wellcome Trust Research Programme), Damien de Walque (World Bank), Anne Mills (London School of Hygiene and Tropical Medicine), Aparnaa Somanathan (World Bank), Eddy van Doorslaer (Erasmus University) & Winnie Yip (Harvard University)

4th Asian Workshop on Econometrics and Health Economics

Location: Manila, Philippines

Date: December 13-16, 2023

This series of workshops provides a forum for the development and dissemination of applications of econometrics in health economics. The Workshop will follow the format of the long-running European Workshops on Econometrics and Health Economics, with a particular vision to: promote health economics research with an applied microeconomics focus in Asia; strengthen the research network within the region; develop a research network with other regions; and build on the research capacity of early-career health economists in Asia.

The workshop program consists of up to 13 oral and 10 poster presentations. For oral presentations, each paper is allocated one hour, made up of a presentation by the author, followed by a response from a discussant and a general discussion. In the poster session, the author presents four 15-minute talks in front of a small audience. The number of participants will be limited to 48. Workshop participants will be expected to attend the whole meeting and play a role as either author, discussant, or chairperson.

The Workshop will begin with a pre-workshop dinner on Wednesday, December 13. On Thursday morning, we will have keynote lectures by Manisha Shah, UCLA.

The Workshop concludes at noon on Saturday, December 16, followed by an optional half-day study tour to visit a deprived community near Manila.

Submission of Papers

Papers for the 2023 Workshop will be selected on the basis of full drafts. The deadline for submitting papers is Monday, August 14, 2023.

Presentations by doctoral students and junior researchers are encouraged. Submitted papers should be unpublished and not accepted for publication in a peer-reviewed journal. Electronic submission of papers is required. To submit the paper, follow the instructions on the online registration page. Decisions will be made and announced in mid September 2023.

Registration

Register online: to attend the Workshop, you must register by Monday, August 14, 2023 as places are limited. Up to 48 participants will be selected and announced in late September.

[Register your intention here](#)

Registration fees: for participants who are accepted for the Workshop, a registration fee of \$550 USD is payable in October. A reduced fee of \$350 USD is available for accepted participants who are PhD students on August 14, 2023.

Registration fee includes: three nights of accommodation with breakfast and dinner; and lunch on Thursday and Friday.

Travel grants: a limited number of travel grants will be offered to selected participants. Selection will be made based on the assessment of the paper, with priorities given to junior researchers and applicants from developing or underrepresented countries.

Enquiries: Asian-WEHE@list.waseda.jp

Did You Know

To ensure transparency to our members, the minutes of Board meetings and our audited annual financial statements are posted on the member-only section of our website. We also hold a members' meeting at our Congress, where members are updated on IHEA's strategic plans, key activities and financial status and input sought from members so that IHEA can meet the needs of its members.

View all upcoming events online [here](#).

