

Marcos Vera-Hernández

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Professional Activity

- Sep 2010- Co-Founder, Collaboration for Health System Improvement and Impact Evaluation in India ([COHESIVE-India](#))
- Sep 2005- Lecturer
Economics Department. University College London
- Sep 2005- Research Fellow. Centre for the Evaluation of Development Policies
Institute for Fiscal Studies (London)
- Oct 2004-Sep 2005 Assistant Professor. Economics Department
Universidad Carlos III de Madrid
- Feb 2002-Oct 2004 Research Economist. Institute for Fiscal Studies (London)
- Oct 2001-Oct 2003 Marie Curie Post Doctoral Research Fellow. University College London
- Sep 1996-Sep 2001 Researcher and Teaching Assistant. Universitat Autònoma de Barcelona.

Education

- June 2001 Ph.D. in Economics. Universitat Autònoma de Barcelona.
Title "Microeconometrics and asymmetric information. Applications to health care utilisation".
- 1996-1998 M.Sc. in Economic Analysis. Universitat Autònoma de Barcelona.
- 1991-1996 B.Sc. in Economics. Universidad Complutense de Madrid.
Field: Economic Analysis and Quantitative Economics.

Research Fields

Development Economics, Health Economics, and Applied Microeconomics.

Most Relevant Publications

Testing for Asymmetric Information in Private Health Insurance. The Economic Journal.
Forthcoming. (joint with Pau Olivella)

"Structural Estimation of a Principal-Agent Model: Moral Hazard in Medical Insurance", The Rand Journal of Economics, Vol.34, No. 4, Winter 2003, pp. 670'693.

"Early Childhood Stimulation With Stunted Children Benefits Adult Competence and Reduces Violent Behavior" Pediatrics 127 (5) pp. 849-857, 2011 (joint with S. Walker, S. Chang, and S. Grantham-McGregor)

"Are tax subsidies for private medical insurance self-financing? Evidence from a microsimulation model", The Journal of Health Economics, Volume 27, 2008, pp. 1285-1298 (Joint with Angel Lopez-Nicolas).

"Competition Among Differentiated Health Plans under Adverse Selection" The Journal of Health Economics, vol 26, 2007 , pp. 233-250. (joint with Pau Olivella).

"Counts with an Endogenous Dummy Regressor: A Series Expansion Approach", The Econometrics Journal, Vol. 8(1), June 2005, pp. 1-22. (Joint with Andres Romeu)

Other Peer Review Publications

"Duplicate Coverage and Demand for Health Care. The Case of Catalonia". Health Economics. Vol. 8, No. 7, November 1999, pp. 579-598.

"Child Health in Rural Colombia. Determinants and Policy Interventions" Economics and Human Biology, Special Issue on Child Health in Latin America. Edited by J. R. Behrman, E. Skoufias, Volume 2(3), December 2004, Pages 335-518 (joint with O. Attanasio, L.C. Gómez, and A. Gómez)

"Pre- and postnatal arsenic exposure and child development at 18 months of age: a cohort study in rural Bangladesh," International Journal of Epidemiology 2010, pp.1-11 (Joint with Hamadani, J, Grantham-McGregor, SM, Tofail, F, Nermell, B, Fangstrom, B, Huda, S, Yesmin, S, Rahman, M, Arifeen, S, Vahter, M)

"How complex are the contracts offered by health plans," SERIEs (Journal of the Spanish Economic Association) 1(3), 2010, pp. 305-323 (Joint with Pau Olivella)

Papers under review

"Community Nurseries and the Nutritional Status of Poor Children. Evidence from Colombia" (joint with O. Attanasio & V. di Maro).

"High-Powered Incentives in Developing Country Health Insurance: Evidence from Colombia's 'Régimen Subsidiado'" (joint with Grant Miller and Diana Pinto). NBER Working Paper 15456.

Work in Progress

"Testing for insurance against illness with health dependent utility function" (joint with Aida Galiano)

"Class size and peer effects in college" (joint with M. Pinto-Machado)

"Breastfeeding and the development gap" (joint with E. Fitzsimons)

"Estimating upper bounds on the price elasticity of prescription drugs among the elderly" (joint with J. Puig-Junoy and A. Tur-Prats)

Is Information enough to Improve Child Health? Evidence from Malawi (joint with E. Fitzsimons, B. Malde, A. Mesnard)

"Do Participatory Community Interventions Improve Consumption Smoothing? Evidence from Malawi" (joint with E. Fitzsimons, B. Malde)

Book Chapters and invited articles

"The Evaluation of Public Policies in the Law of Sustainable Economy" (In Spanish) in (eds.) Bagés, M., Fernández-Villaverde, J. and Garicano, L. E-book on the Law of Sustainable Economy. Fundación de Estudios de Economía Aplicada. Madrid. Spain.

"A practitioner's guide to evaluating the impacts of labor market programs", World Bank Employment Policy Primer Issue No.12, December 2009. (joint with E. Fitzsimons).

"Evaluating Public Health Interventions without Experiments,"(In Spanish) Gaceta Sanitaria Vo.17, 2003, (Journal of The Spanish Association of Public Health). Article requested by the Spanish Association of Health Economics.

“Interactions between Public and Private Health Insurance,” (In Spanish) in Casanova (eds) “Public and Private Interface in Health”. Masson. 2003

“Microeconometrics and Asymmetric Information: Applications to Health Care Utilisation” Cuadernos de Información Económica Num. 804. 2003, (Journal of the Economics Ministry in Spain).

Teaching

Health Economics (M.Sc. UCL: 2008-09, 2009-10, 2010-11)

Microeconomics for Public Policy (M.Sc. UCL: 2005-06, 2006-07, 2007-08, 2008-09)

Impact Evaluation Methods (Summer School, Los Andes Colombia: 2004 & 2008)

Economics of Information (B.Sc, UCL: 2005-06, 2006-07, 2007-08, 2008-09, 2009-10, 2010-2011)

World Economics (B.Sc. UC3 Madrid: 2004-05)

Industrial Economics (B.Sc. UA Barcelona: 2000-01)

Short courses: Impact Evaluation methods in Health (Pre-conference session of the 2005 International Health Economics Association Conference with A. Wagstaff, and 2008 Spanish Association of Health Economics with S. Berlinski)

Awards

The paper “High-Powered Incentives in Developing Country Health Insurance: Evidence from Colombia’s ‘Régimen Subsidiado’” was awarded first place of the Inter American Award for Research on Social Security 2010.

International Member of the Research Advisory Board of the Australian Centre for Economic Research on Health (ACERH) for 2009 and 2010. ACERH is Australia’s first inter-university centre for health economics. It comprises research staff and students at three of Australia’s research-intensive (Group of Eight) universities: The Australian National University, The University of Queensland and the University of Western Australia.

The paper “Competition among Differentiated Health Plans under Adverse Selection” obtained the award of the Spanish Health Economics Association as best article in health economics by a Spanish researcher or researcher based in Spain in 2007.

Visiting Fellow of the British Academy 2005.

Second Prize of "Young Researchers Competition in Health Economics", Second World Conference of the International Health Economics Association, Rotterdam 1999 by my paper “Duplicate Coverage and Demand for Health Care”.

Grants and Research Projects

ESRC/DFID (Pending). Demand and Supply Side Experiments in Telemedicine: Improving and Paying for Quality of Health Care for the Rural Poor. Role: PI of IFS subcontract. Lead PI: Mohanan (Duke).

Nuffield Foundation (Pending). The causal effect of breastfeeding on children’s cognitive skills in the UK. Role: co-investigator. PI: Emla Fitzsimons (IFS).

ESRC Rising Powers (Pending). How are relative skill prices changing across the global economy? Estimating the returns to education in the Rising Powers and the UK. Role: co-investigator. PI: Emla Fitzsimons (IFS).

ESRC/DFID (Pending). Improving productivity in developing countries: identifying bottlenecks and obstacles to productive investments and technology adoption. Role: co-investigator. PI: Orazio Attanasio (UCL).

National Institute of Health, 2011-2014: "Paying-for-Performance and Comparative Effectiveness of Strategies to Combat Anemia in China". Role: PI UCL subcontract. Lead-PI: Grant Miller (Stanford). Total amount: \$2.500.000.

Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation, 2011-2015: "The Bihar Evaluation of Social Franchising and Telemedicine" Role: PI UCL subcontract. Lead-PI: Manoj Mohanan (Duke). Total amount: \$3,050,000.

U.S Dept. of Labor, 2010-2011: "Do Participatory Community Interventions Improve Consumption Smoothing? Evidence from Malawi" Role: Joint Principal Investigator Amount US\$80474

ESRC, 2009-1012: Early Childhood Development: Identifying Successful Interventions and the Mechanisms Behind Them. Role: co-investigator. PI: E. Fitzsimons (IFS). Amount: £715,982.

ESRC/Hewlett Foundation, 2008-2011, "The effects of reproductive health in Malawi" Role : Principal Investigator. Amount £400.000.

Inter-American Development Bank. "The Impact of the Subsidized Health Insurance in Colombia" June 2007 – September 2008. Role: Joint Principal Investigator. Amount \$38.200

ESRC)/DFID. 2006-2009, Reference Number RES-167-25-0124 "Human Capital Accumulation and Poverty Reduction in Developing Countries" Role :Investigator

"Child Health, Poverty and the Role of Social Policies". Funded by the Inter American Development Bank. May 2003-April 2004. Role: Researcher. PI: Prof. Orazio Attanasio.

"Household Consumption under Extreme Poverty". Funded by the Economics and Social Research Council. January 2004-January 2005. Role: Researcher. PI: Prof. Orazio Atanassio.

"Structural Estimation of Models with Asymmetric Information". Funded by the European Union. Nov 2001-Oct 2003. "Marie Curie" Postdoctoral Fellowship. Tutor: Prof. Richard Blundell.

Recent presentations & invited seminars

Inter American Development Bank (September 2011), US Dept. of Labor (September 2011), International Health Economics Association (July 2011), U. Alicante (May 2011), University College Dublin (September 2010), MOVE Development Workshop (Barcelona, July 2010), Workshop on Microeconometrics (Oxford, July 2010), St. Gallen University (May 2010), Seville University (March 2010), Kent University (February 2010) Royal Economic Society (London, Jan 2010), CEMFI (October 2009), DFID (October 2009) London Health Economics Meeting (October 2009), NBER Summer Institute (July 2009) Workshop on Household Economics (IFS, June 2009) Edinburgh University (January 2009), UCL Applied Micro Seminar (June 2008), University of Girona (April 2008) Royal Economics Society Conference (March 2008), Paris I (March 2008), CEP/Labour (London, October 2007), Universitat Autònoma de Barcelona (October 2007), iHEA (Copenhagen, July 2007), IZA/Worldbank Labour conference (June 2007), University Carlos III de Madrid (May 2007), University of York (April 2007) Paris and Toulouse (March 2007), City University (London, January 2007)

Other

Member of the following Scientific Committees: 5th and 6th World Congress of the International Health Economic Association; XXX, XXXI, XXXII, XXXIII Spanish Symposium of Economic Analysis; XXIX and XXXI Conference of the Spanish Health Economics Association

Member of the awarding committee for the Student Competition of the 5th World Congress of the International Health Economics Association

Member of the awarding committee for the best article by a Spanish health economist published in 2009 and in 2010, awarded by the Spanish Health Economic Association

Member of the Scientific Committee and of the Awarding Committee for the Student Competition of the XXXIV Conference of the European Association for Research in Industrial Economics

Evaluation activities for: ESRC, Medical Research Council UK, BBVA Foundation, AGAUR (Catalonian Agency for Research Projects Financing), and ANECA (Spanish equivalent of ESRC),

PhD examiner: London School of Economics, University of Essex, University College London, Universidad Autónoma de Barcelona, Universidad Carlos III de Madrid

Organiser of Applied Micro Seminar at UCL Economics Department (2006-07; 2007-08)

Organiser of Staff Common Room at UCL Economics Department (2008-)