

Spillover Effects of the Affordable Care Act on Medicare Beneficiaries

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SC-BI Fellowship
25 July 2018



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My Question

What, if any, spillover effects did elderly Medicare beneficiaries experience as a result of the Affordable Care Act insuring more nonelderly through the marketplaces?



Motivation

Multi-payer systems can create spillover



My Contribution

First Virginia county-level study examining spillover to Medicare beneficiaries from the ACA

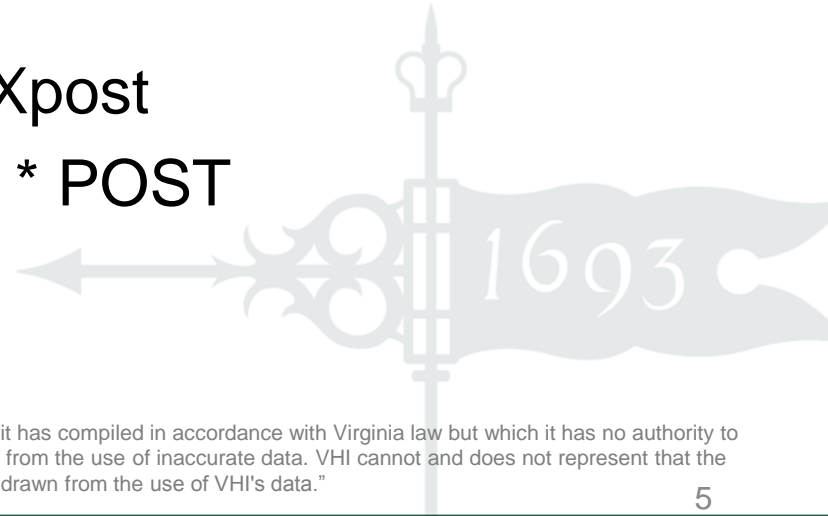
Focusing on hospitalization outcomes

Exploiting county-level variation in uninsurance rates to show the intensity of the ACA's effect & create a natural experiment

Methods

- Fixed county level effects in multivariate regressions
- Panel data

- Key explanatory variable: uninsXpost
$$\text{uninsXpost} = \text{unins2013} * \text{POST}$$



Results

Variable	uninsXpost (County/Year/Quarter)	uninsXpost (County/Year)	uninsXpost (Discharge)
Rate of elderly Medicare hospitalizations	0.00013	0.00251*	n/a
Rate of non-elective elderly Medicare hospitalizations	0.00008	0.00118	n/a
Rate of elective elderly Medicare hospitalizations	0.00005	0.00081	n/a
Rate of emergency department visits among elderly Medicare patients	n/a	-0.00270	n/a
Log of Medicare total charges	0.0108***	0.00665*	0.00277
Log of non-elective Medicare charges	0.0134***	0.00685	0.00340
Log of elective Medicare charges	0.00914	0.00103	-0.00133

Statistical significance: *** p<0.01, ** p<0.05, * p<0.1

Discussion & Conclusion



Overall increases in Medicare hospitalization volume & charges



No negative spillover



Thank you!

Questions?

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