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UNIVERSITY OF PENNSYLVANIA

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Personal Information:

DOB: 05/13/1988
Gender: Male
Citizenship: South Korea

Undergraduate Studies:

B.A., Economics, Seoul National University, South Korea, 2013

Masters Level Work:

Completed, Economics, Seoul National University, South Korea, 2013-2015

Graduate Studies:

University of Pennsylvania, 2015 to the present
Thesis Title: "Essays on the Economics of Health and Optimal Taxation"
Expected Completion Date: May 2021

Thesis Committee and References:

Professor Dirk Krueger (Advisor)
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Professor Andrew Shephard
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Teaching and Research Fields:

Macroeconomics, Health Economics, Public Policies

Teaching Experience:

Fall, 2020	Introduction to Microeconomics, UPENN, Recitation Instructor for Professor Anne Duchene
Spring, 2020	Intermediate Macroeconomics, UPENN, Recitation Instructor for Professor Guillermo Ordonez
Fall, 2019	Statistics for Public Policy, UPENN, Recitation Instructor for Professor Matthew Levendusky
Fall, 2019	Public Economics, UPENN, Recitation Instructor for Professor Lauren Russell
Spring, 2019	Intermediate Macroeconomics, UPENN, Recitation Instructor for Professor Dirk Krueger

Spring, 2018	Intermediate Microeconomics, UPENN, Recitation Instructor for Professor Kenneth Burdett
Fall, 2017	Intermediate Microeconomics, UPENN, Recitation Instructor for Professor Rakesh Vohra
Spring, 2017	Intermediate Microeconomics, UPENN, Recitation Instructor for Professor Kenneth Burdett
Fall, 2016	Introductory Economics for Business Students, UPENN, Recitation Instructor for Professor Anne Duchene and Professor Gizem Saka
Spring, 2015	Advanced Macroeconomics, SNU, Teaching Assistant for Professor Tack Yun
Fall, 2014	Principles of Economics 2, SNU, Teaching Assistant for Professor Tack Yun
Spring, 2013	Human Life and Economy, SNU, Teaching Assistant for Professor Wan-Jin Kim

Honors, Scholarships, and Fellowships:

2016 Certificate of Distinctive Performance in the Preliminary Examination in Microeconomics, Department of Economics, University of Pennsylvania

Publications:

“The role of global connectedness and market power in crises: Firm-level evidence from the COVID-19 pandemic” with Jay Hyun and Daisoon Kim, *Covid Economics, Vetted and Real-Time Papers*, 2020, 49(4), 148–171

Research Papers(s) in Progress:

“On Optimal Taxation and Subsidization of Health Goods” (Job Market Paper)

In the current US health insurance system in which the households directly sponsor small part (10%) of the high health care cost they incur (17.7% of GDP), optimal taxation and subsidization on health goods show large scope for welfare improvement. If households do not fully pay for the medical expenditure, they generate externalities by not internalizing the full effects of their own health behaviors on medical expenditure and, in turn, on health insurance premiums or tax burdens for governmental health care subsidies. Using an overlapping generations framework of working age that models these externalities, this paper compares the welfare effects of optimal taxation of alcohol and cigarette to those of optimal subsidization of complementary goods to physical activity. Nation-wide sports goods subsidization policies, as opposed to the extant health excise taxes on alcohol and cigarette, have received less attention despite the numerous evidences of their potentials to internalize the externalities. The welfare gain from optimal subsidization of sports goods, however, is \$146.08 per household every year, about 16 times higher than that from optimal taxation on alcohol and cigarette. The former decreases the aggregate medical expenditure by 3.2%, while the latter only by 0.2%.

“On Age-dependent Health Investment Motive against Idiosyncratic Health Risk”

Towards deepening our knowledge about health capital as part of asset portfolio, this paper studies the importance of incorporating age-dependent health components in evaluating the role of health investment in self-insuring against idiosyncratic health shocks and the welfare effects. We construct a life cycle model in which higher medical expenditure increases the future health capital, which in turn increases the future wage. In making the optimal health investment decisions, the households also consider the effects of health capital on the co-insurance rate and the distribution of health shocks. Depending on the existence of age-dependence in the health production function and in its effects on co-insurance rate and health shock density, the welfare cost of health risk could differ by 2.1 percentage points (12.1% for age-dependent and 10.0% for age-invariant model).

Computational Skills:

MATLAB, R, Stata, Julia