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**EUROPEAN UNIVERSITY INSTITUTE – ECONOMICS DEPARTMENT**

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**Personal Information:**

Date of birth: 4<sup>th</sup> July 1984

Citizenship: Argentinean, Spanish

**Undergraduate Studies:**

B.A., Economics, Universidad Nacional de Cuyo, Argentina, 2008

**Graduate Studies:**

MSc, Economics, Universidad Nacional de La Plata (La Plata, Argentina), 2011

MRes, Economics, European University Institute (Florence, Italy), 2013

European University Institute, 2012 to present

Ph.D. Candidate in Economics

Thesis Title: "Essays in Health Economics"

Expected Completion Date: June 2017

**References:**

Professor Andrea Ichino

EUI Department of Economics

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Professor Jérôme Adda

Bocconi Department of Economics

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Professor Juan J. Dolado

EUI Department of Economics

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**Teaching and Research Fields:**

Primary fields: Health Economics, Applied Microeconomics

Secondary fields: Development Economics, Microeconometrics

**Teaching Experience:**

Fall, 2015      Econometrics II (Graduate), EUI, teaching assistant for Professor Juan J. Dolado.

Fall, 2014      Econometrics II (Graduate), EUI, teaching assistant for Professor Juan J. Dolado.

Fall, 2013      Econometrics II (Graduate), EUI, teaching assistant for Professor Jérôme Adda.

### **Research Experience and Other Employment:**

2010 - 2012	World Bank, Washington DC, United States – Poverty Reduction and Gender Unit for Latina America and the Caribbean, Extended Term Consultant
2010	World Bank – Poverty Reduction and Gender Unit for Latina America and the Caribbean, Short Term Consultant, Washington DC, United States
2008 - 2010	Center for Distributive, Labor and Social Studies (CEDLAS), La Plata, Argentina - Research Assistant

### **Professional Activities:**

Presentations: 4<sup>th</sup> Slde Workshop for PhD students in Econometrics and Empirical Economics 2016 (Bank of Italy, Perugia, Italy); 31<sup>st</sup> Annual Congress of the European Economic Association 2016 (Geneva, Switzerland); 3<sup>rd</sup> Annual Conferences of the International Association for Applied Econometrics 2016 (University of Milano-Bicocca, Milan, Italy); 7<sup>th</sup> Workshop on Institutions, Individual Behavior and Economic Outcomes 2016 (Sardinia, Italy); Royal Economic Society 2<sup>nd</sup> Symposium of Junior Researchers 2016 (U. Sussex, England); Warwick Economics PhD Conference 2016 (U. Warwick, Coventry, England); Economics, Health and Happiness Conference 2016 (SUPSI Lugano, Switzerland); 8<sup>th</sup> Italian Doctoral Workshop in Empirical Economics 2015 (Colegio Carlo Alberto, Turin, Italy); 20<sup>th</sup> Conference - Associazione Italiana di Economia Sanitaria 2015 (AIES Alghero, Italy); International Conference on Applied Research in Economics ICARE 2015 (HSE Perm, Russia)

Referee: Economic Policy (2016)

### **Honors, Scholarships, and Fellowships:**

2015	Young Researcher Award for Best Paper - Italian Health Economics Association
2012 - 2016	Spanish Grant “Salvador de Madariaga” - Ministry of Education, Culture and Sports
2009	Research grant - Prize for Young Economist - Red Mercosur

### **Research Papers:**

“Low Staffing Levels in the Maternity Wards: Keep Calm and Call the Surgeon” ([Job Market Paper](#))

Abstract: This paper investigates the relationship between workload and choice of treatment in a large but under-studied segment of the healthcare sector maternity wards. Using detailed microdata on childbirth, I exploit quasi-random assignment of patients who attempt to have a natural delivery to different ratios of patients-to-midwives and compare their likelihood of changing delivery method. I find that women who face a ratio higher than 1.33 are 45% more likely to give birth by cesarean section (C-sections). This effect is larger for patients who were already admitted with a higher risk of C-section, implying that provision of proper and timely care matters more for this type of patients. Because C-sections are faster than vaginal deliveries -in which the patient follows the course of labor-, the medical team may decide to do more C-sections when time constrained. Using civil status as a proxy for bargaining power -assuming single women are on average more likely to be alone-, I find that only single patients are subjected to unnecessary surgery. This provides evidence that high midwives' workload is yet another factor which triggers physician-induced-demand for C-sections.

“Forgetting-by-not-doing: The Case of Surgeons and Cesarean Sections”

Abstract: To test how human capital depreciation disturbs worker productivity, this paper explores how recent experience (number of surgeries performed in the last month) affects surgeon's performance of cesarean sections. Because there is a problem of selection with more experienced doctors performing the surgery for patients with worse health, by controlling for measures of health and physicians fixed effects I find a lower bound for the effect. Results suggest that, independently of total experience, recent experience significantly lowers the probability of low APGAR score and the probability of needing intensive care. In a robustness check I differentiate between elective, in-labor and emergency C-sections, and find that the effect is only present for these last two groups. Unlike the other two, elective C-sections are planned in advance and physicians have a lot of information on patients' health before operating. These findings support policies for centralization of C-section services in fewer but bigger hospitals where each physician performs more surgeries.

**Languages:**

Spanish (Native); English (Fluent); Italian (Highly proficient); Portuguese (Basic); French (Basic)