The Value of Socialized Medicine: The Impact of Universal Healthcare Provision on Birth and Mortality Rates in Turkey

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Purpose

• The paper examines the impact of universal health care on population by using two health measures: Birth and mortality rates

• Treatment: FMP (Family Medicine Program)
Contribution

- Supply side vs. demand side
- Program evaluation
Method

• DiD
• Time varying differences
• Province fixed effect

• After controlling time varying difference and province fixed effect, non-randomness of FMP disappear
• After controlling province-specific linear and quadratic time trends, dynamic feature of non-random pattern of FMP disappear
Results

- Higher age-specific birth rates
- Lower mortality rates
Structure of the paper

• As title suggests: The impact of universal healthcare provision

• Then the treatment of FMP is an issue – control group has the universal healthcare provision

• Program evaluation of FMP
What FMP does:

• Decentralization of the healthcare
  – Staffing
  – Logistics (Proximity)

  – Staffing: The decentralization is not an issue, if the same number of doctors are employed in the same province, we would observe the same effect
  – Logistics: Assumption
• The assumption: In the provinces with FMP, market area for healthcare reduces

• FMP’s are introduced in developed and urban areas first
  – More hospitals are in the market (even the private ones) to provide services ---reduces the market areas even more

  – Does time varying differences really account for the market area? (Does non-randomness disappear?)

  – Do we observe a similar trend in control group where market area is in decline?