

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?

