

**Hamidreza Habibi**  
University of California Santa Cruz

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**Research  
Interests**

*Primary:* Health Economics and Policy, Public Economics, Applied Microeconomics  
*Secondary:* Machine Learning, Financial Economics, Graph Theory

**Teaching  
Interests**

*Microeconomics, Econometrics, Health Economics and Policy, Public Economics*

**Education**

*Ph.D. Candidate in Economics* Sep 2019 - Jun 2025 (exp)  
University of California, Santa Cruz Santa Cruz, CA  
M.A in Economics Awarded in August 2020

*M.Sc Mathematics* August 2019  
Illinois State University Normal, IL

*M.Sc Economics* August 2018  
Illinois State University Normal, IL

*B.S. Economics* June 2016  
University of Tehran Tehran, Iran

**Dissertation  
Committee**

*Carlos Dobkin (Advisor)*  
Professor of Economics  
[cdobkin@ucsc.edu](mailto:cdobkin@ucsc.edu)  
(831) 459-2079

*Laura Giuliano*  
Professor of Economics  
[lgiulian@ucsc.edu](mailto:lgiulian@ucsc.edu)  
(831) 459-4248

*George Bulman*  
Associate Professor of Economics  
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(650) 521-1603

**Job Market  
Paper**

**Curbing Pharma Influence: The Effect of Marketing Restrictions on Physicians' Prescribing Behavior and Healthcare Expenditure**

*The impact of direct-to-physician marketing and its regulation on prescribing behavior, drug expenditures, and patient outcomes remains contested. The pharmaceutical industry argues that such marketing keeps doctors informed about new medicines, while critics express concerns about potential distortions in prescribing patterns, prompting calls for stricter regulation. Some states have begun adopting such regulations,*

but little is known about their effects on prescribing behavior and healthcare expenditures. New Jersey implemented a policy in January 2018, imposing significant restrictions on direct-to-physician marketing, including limits on meal payments and caps on remuneration for consulting and speaking engagements. Using this policy as an exogenous source of variation and three federal administrative databases in a difference-in-difference event-study design, I estimate a 23% reduction in the dollar value of marketing received and a 4.4% decrease in the prescribing of marketed drugs by New Jersey prescribers compared to their peers in New York and Pennsylvania. I also estimate a 6% relative decline in overall drug expenditures, driven in part by a welfare-enhancing shift from branded to generic prescribing. The policy's impacts were most pronounced among prescribers who received the highest payments prior to implementation, particularly for promotional speaking, with no significant change observed among those receiving limited or no payments. The policy affected both new and established drugs, suggesting that doctor-pharma financial ties are not purely informational.

## Publications

### **Quantifying Specific and Systemic Factors in the Black-White Wealth Gap in the United States**

*with Rongchen Liu, Gonzalo Martin Respighi Grasso, Anirban Sanyal, and Nirvikar Singh*

*Journal of Race, Economics and Policy, November 2024*

<https://doi.org/10.1007/s41996-024-00160-4>

### **An equity-minded multi-dimensional framework for exploring the dynamics of sense of belonging in an introductory CS course**

*with Narges Norouzi, Carmen Robinson, and Anna Sher*

*Proceedings of the 2023 Conference on Innovation and Technology in Computer Science Education, June 2023*

<https://doi.org/10.1145/3587102.3588780>

### **Return and Volatility Spillovers across Western and MENA Countries**

*with Hassan Mohammadi*

*The North American Journal of Economics and Finance, January 2022*

<https://doi.org/10.1016/j.najef.2022.101642>

### **F-Derangements and Decomposing Bipartite Graphs Into Paths**

*with Michael Plantholt and Ben Mussell*

*The Art of Discrete and Applied Mathematics, April 2024*

<https://doi.org/10.26493/2590-9770.1576.a47>

## Research in Progress

### **Impact of CARES Act Relief Funds on US Nursing Home COVID-19 Response**

*Utilizing data from the Department of Health and Human Services, the project analyzes how CARES Act COVID-19 relief funds affected the ability of US nursing homes to prevent and manage COVID-19 mortality and morbidity.*

### **Black-White Wealth and Income Inequalities in the United States**

*with Anirban Sanyal and Nirvikar Singh*

*Quantifies how differences in wealth and income levels of Black and White Americans relate to socioeconomic characteristics using data from the 2019 Survey of Consumer*

*Finances.*

### **Effect of Health Insurance on Healthcare Utilization: Evidence from ACA Medicaid Expansions**

*Using 9 years of ACS and BRFSS in a two-way fixed effect model with staggered treatment timing to analyze the effect of insurance on healthcare utilization in the short and the long run.*

### **Determinants and Prediction of Patients' Waiting Time in Emergency Departments**

*Implement Post-lasso to analyze a survey of doctors and patients over 9 years and find that Black people with public insurance wait 6 minutes more on average than White individuals with private insurance in ED before seeing a physician.*

<b>Teaching Fellow</b>	<i>The Role of Statistics in Economics (Causal Inference)</i> <i>University of California, Santa Cruz</i>	<i>Summer 2022 - Present</i> <i>Santa Cruz, CA</i>
<b>Programming Skills</b>	<i>R, SQL, Python, STATA, SAS, Excel, LaTeX</i>	
<b>International Journal Reviews</b>	<i>International Review of Economics and Finance</i> <i>International Review of Economics and Finance</i> <i>The Quarterly Review of Economics and Finance</i> <i>The Quarterly Review of Economics and Finance</i>	<i>January 2024</i> <i>November 2022</i> <i>July 2022</i> <i>March 2022</i>
<b>Research Judging</b>	<i>Judge for CSU Annual Research Competition in Economics</i> <i>Judge for CSU Annual Research Competition in Economics</i>	<i>April 2022</i> <i>April 2021</i>
<b>Graduate Researcher</b>	<i>Department of Economics</i> <i>University of California, Santa Cruz</i>	<i>Sep 2023 - Dec 2023</i> <i>Santa Cruz, CA</i>
	<i>Department of Politics</i> <i>University of California, Santa Cruz</i>	<i>March 2023 - July 2023</i> <i>Santa Cruz, CA</i>
	<i>Institutional Research, Assessment and Policy Studies</i> <i>University of California, Santa Cruz</i>	<i>Jan 2022 - July 2022</i> <i>Santa Cruz, CA</i>
<b>Awards</b>	<i>Award for Excellence in Teaching</i> <i>University of California, Santa Cruz, CA</i>	<i>May 2022</i>
	<i>Merit Based Doctorate Fellowship</i> <i>University of California, Santa Cruz, CA</i>	<i>Sep 2019 - Present</i>

	Endowment for Graduate Student Excellence Illinois State University, Normal, IL	April 2018
	Graduate Assistant Fellowship Illinois State University, Normal, IL	Aug 2016 - Aug 2019
Internships	AIESEC Intern at Graz University Graz, Austria	Feb 2016 - Apr 2016
	AIESEC Intern at Yalova University Yalova, Turkey	Feb 2015 - Apr 2015
Teaching Experience	University of California, Santa Cruz	March 2020 - Present
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Is there Truth in Numbers? The role of statistics in economics (<i>Causal Inference</i>)</li> <li>• Intermediate Microeconomics</li> <li>• Security Markets and Financial Institutions</li> <li>• Introductory Microeconomics: Resource Allocation and Market Structure</li> </ul>	
	Illinois State University	Aug 2016 - May 2019
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Real Analysis</li> <li>• Calculus III</li> <li>• Abstract Algebra</li> <li>• Microeconometrics</li> <li>• Intermediate Microeconomics</li> </ul>	
	University of Tehran	Sep 2014 - May 2016
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Calculus II</li> </ul>	
Presentations	All Labor CA Conference, UCLA Los Angeles, CA	2024
	UCSC Applied Microeconomics Workshop Santa Cruz, CA	2021,2022,2023,2024
	All Labor CA Conference, UCSB Santa Barbara, CA	2023
	Midwest Economic Association Annual Conference Chicago, IL	2018
	Illinois State University Annual Symposium Normal, IL	2018