

Andrea Berggren

PhD Candidate

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Citizenship: Swedish

Fields of Concentration:

Health Economics
Labor Economics
Social Inequality

Desired Teaching:

Econometrics
Health Economics
Microeconomics

Education:

Ph.D. Economics, University of Gothenburg, Sweden, 2016 to present
(on parental leave 2019-2020, expected completion date: June 2022)

Supervisors: Professor [Mikael Lindahl](#) and Associate Lecturer [Gustav Kjellsson](#)

M.Sc. Economics, University of Gothenburg, 2013-2015

B.Sc. Economics, University of Gothenburg, 2011-2013

Development Studies, University of Gothenburg, 2011

Business Studies, University of Technology, Sydney, 2009-2010

Publications:

Berggren, A., & Jeppsson, L. (2021). The Impact of Upper Secondary School Flexibility on Sorting and Educational Outcomes. *Economics of Education Review*, 81, 102080. <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.econedurev.2021.102080> [JMP]

Work in Progress:

"Antibiotics Consumption in Children and Health Care Utilization"

"Information and Choice of health Care Provider in Primary Care" with Gustav Kjellsson and Jens Dietrichsson

Working Experience:

HUI Research, Junior Consultant, Gothenburg, 2015 - 2016

I worked with analyzing and presenting data, mainly with data related to tourism within Sweden. I was also involved in forecasting business cycles within the retail sector as well as quantifying the costs of a government proposition to ban exposure of tobacco products. The main focus of this job was to present accessible and clear reports, tailored to fit the demands of the client.

Research Assistant, University of Gothenburg, 2015

Teaching Experience:

Teaching Assistant, Macroeconomics II (Undergraduate), 2018-2020
Teaching Assistant, Microeconomics I (Undergraduate), 2017-2019
Teaching Assistant, Applied Economics and Trade (Undergraduate), 2018

Fellowships, Honors and Awards:

Adlerbertska Stipendiestiftelsen, Travel grant, 2018
Donationsnämnden, Travel grant, 2018
Richard C. Malmsten Award for Best M.Sc.Thesis, 2015:
The Effect of Relative Standing on Self-Perceived Health Among Europeans Aged 50 or Older
Kjellbergsska Flickskolans Donationer, 2014

Technical Skills:

Programming Languages: R (basic)
Data Analytics Tools: Stata, SPSS, Limdep, ArcGis(basic)
Other Software: LaTeX, Microsoft Office

Presentations:

Labor Economics workshop, University of Gothenburg 2019, 2021
National Conference in Economics, Junior Female Workshop, 2019

Conference Organization:

Swedish Health Economic Association (SHEA), 2022
Co-organizer of a Junior Female Workshop, providing mentors for young female economics at the National Conference in Economics at Linnéuniversitetet, Växjö, 2018
Nordic Conference on Behavioral and Experimental Economics (NCBEE), University of Gothenburg, 2017
Student Representative, Graduate School, 2013-2015

Languages:

English (fluent), Swedish (native), Norwegian (fluent), Spanish (basic)

References:

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Professor [Randi Hjalmarsson](#)
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Dissertation Abstract:

My dissertation studies the importance of individual choices in the domains of education and primary health care. Institutions in education or health care allow agents (students, patients, doctors) to make discretionary decisions. Does the quality of these decisions impact societal outcomes? Understanding the heterogeneity in, and consequences of, these decisions is important from a policy-perspective as it may exacerbate or ameliorate social inequality. Throughout the dissertation, I use large micro-level data sets from Sweden and quasi-experimental research designs.

In Chapter One, **The Impact of Upper Secondary School Flexibility on Sorting and Educational Outcomes**, (with Louise Jeppsson) [**Job Market Paper**] we study student's choice of courses in upper secondary school. The research design makes use of an upper secondary curriculum reform in Sweden that increased students' course-taking flexibility in year 2000. In the most popular upper secondary program, it led to a significant decrease in mandatory mathematics requirements. Using administrative Swedish data, we estimate the causal impact of the reform on tertiary education outcomes and expected earnings using a differences-in-discontinuity identification strategy. The method compares students born immediately before and after the cutoff date. The inclusion of students born in neighboring non-reform cutoff years enables us to disentangle the school starting age effect from the unconfounded effect of the reform. We find no negative effects of the reduced mathematics requirements. Rather, we find a positive effect of the reform on students' probability of enrolling in, and earning a degree from, tertiary education. Our heterogeneity analysis suggests that relatively disadvantaged students were not negatively affected by the reform.

The remaining two chapters are works in progress. In Chapter Two, **Antibiotics Consumption in Children and Health Care Utilization**, I investigate the consequences for children, of whether a physician decides to prescribe antibiotics or not. Efforts to combat the rising problem of antimicrobial resistance, governments have imposed restrictions on antibiotics use globally. While it has been shown that increased prudence decreases antibiotics prescribing, less is known about the individual consequences of this decrease. Studying the causal consequences of antibiotics consumption in primary care is challenging since individuals choose their health care provider, which introduces a bias if this choice is correlated with prescribing practices. To overcome this limitation, I leverage detailed register-data from three counties in Sweden (Skåne, Västra Götaland and Stockholms län) on primary care use that I match to geographical information about the distances from an individual's home coordinates to the 10 closest primary care centers (PCC). I show that, after controlling for age, birth month and year, there is a significant between- health center variation that can be of use to identify the causal effect of antibiotics on subsequent health care utilization. In the first step, I find that having a less prudent (i.e. more likely to prescribe) PCC as the closest unit increases the probability of being prescribed antibiotics at a visit to any PCC. More results are in progress.

In Chapter Three, **Information and the Choice of Health Care Provider in Primary Care** (with Gustav Kjellsson and Jens Dietrichsson), we investigate determinants of choice of primary health care provider. Specifically, the paper studies if, and how, individuals react to information about the quality of their chosen provider. The research design makes use of newsarticles and treat these as exogenous information shocks to the listed individuals. We match the treated individuals to control individuals, based on similar background characteristics but listed at an untreated primary care center. In the first step we study whether individuals react to such information, primarily by altering their listing unit. This work is in progress and the results not finalized.