DO&IT Seminar Series
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Speaker: Professor Jeffrey McCullough, UMN
Date: Friday, October 17, 2014
Time: 1:30 PM - 2:45 PM
Location: Room 1511

Title: Health Information Technology and Patient Outcomes: The Role of Information and Labor Coordination

Abstract: Health information technology (IT) adoption, it is argued, will dramatically improve patient care. We study the impact of hospital IT adoption on patient outcomes focusing on the role of patient and organizational heterogeneity. We link detailed hospital discharge data on all Medicare fee-for-service admissions from 2002-2007 to detailed hospital-level IT adoption information. For all IT sensitive conditions, we find that health IT adoption reduces mortality for the most complex patients but does not affect outcomes for the median patient. The benefits from health IT are primarily experienced by patients whose diagnoses require cross-specialty care coordination and extensive clinical information management.

Bio: Jeffrey McCullough, Ph.D., is an Associate Professor in the Division of Health Policy and Management, School of Public Health, at the University of Minnesota. He has a Ph.D. in health economics from The Wharton School and his work focuses on the economics of technology and innovation in health care. In particular, Dr. McCullough’s work has addressed health information technology (IT). His work studies the adoption of health IT and its effects on health care quality and productivity. This work further explores how health IT, health system organization, and clinician effort interact to create value. Other studies explore competition on the federal health insurance exchange, modeling the dynamic consequences of treatment decisions using electronic health record data, and the application of big data techniques to improve risk adjustment and risk classification models.