

ERIC SAN MIGUEL

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EDUCATION

The Pennsylvania State University (Penn State) Ph.D. in Economics (expected May 2027)	2021 – present
Instituto Tecnológico Autónomo de México (ITAM) M.A. in Economic Theory (with highest honors)	2019 – 2021
Centro de Investigación y Docencia Económicas (CIDE) B.A. in Economics (with highest honors) • Exchange student at Universitat Pompeu Fabra (UPF), Barcelona.	2015 – 2019 Spring 2018

RESEARCH INTERESTS

Fields: Industrial Organization, Health Economics, Applied Micro

WORKING PAPERS

- **Medicare and Hospital Quality** (Job Market Paper)

This paper studies how Medicare payment policy shapes hospital quality and patient welfare. I build a structural model of hospital quality choice and hospital–insurer bargaining in which quality increases demand from Medicare and commercial patients, affects negotiated commercial prices, and raises hospitals’ costs. I estimate the model using Massachusetts Medicare and commercial claims. I find that Medicare and commercial demand respond similarly to quality, but commercial margins are much larger and negotiated commercial prices rise with quality about 17 times more than Medicare’s quality adjustment. At the average hospital, commercial patients account for 81 percent of the marginal return to quality. Therefore, increases in Medicare’s share, through population aging or lowering the age of eligibility, decrease equilibrium quality and average patient welfare. I show that making Medicare rates more responsive to quality can prevent this decline, but payments and quality gains concentrate at the highest-quality, highest-margin hospitals.
- **Horizontal Mergers Post-Deregulation: The Case of the Mexico City Retail Gasoline Market**
- **Criminal Politicians, Political Parties, and Selection: Evidence from Indian National Elections** (with Amrutha Manjunath)

SEMINARS, WORKSHOPS, AND CONFERENCES

2026: University of Nottingham (Nottingham, UK), Penn State IO Brownbag, ITAM Alumni Conference (Mexico City, Mexico), 33rd European Workshop on Econometrics and Health Economics (Vienna, Austria), Penn State

2023 – 2025: Penn State IO Brownbag

DISTINCTIONS AND SCHOLARSHIPS

Ed Green Graduate Fund (USD 1,000 in research support), Penn State	2026
Second Place, Graduate Exhibition (Social and Behavioral Sciences), Penn State	2026
Will E. Mason Memorial Award for best thesis proposal, Penn State	2025
RGSO Dissertation Competition Award (USD 7,000), Penn State	2024
Graduate Assistantship, Penn State	2021 – present
Full Tuition Scholarship, ITAM	2019 – 2021

RESEARCH EXPERIENCE

Doctoral Research Assistant to Prof. Paul Grieco. 2024 – present	Penn State
• Provided research assistance for the paper Optimal Estimation of Discrete Choice Demand Models with Consumer and Product Data (Grieco, Murry, Pinkse, and Sagl, 2025). R&R at <i>Econometrica</i> .	
Doctoral Research Assistant to Prof. Bradley Setzler. Summer 2023	Penn State
Research Assistant to Prof. Emilio Gutiérrez. August 2019 – December 2020	ITAM
Research Assistant to Prof. Alexander Dentler. September 2018 – June 2019	CIDE

TEACHING EXPERIENCE

Teaching Assistant for Ph.D. Courses (Industrial Organization), Department of Economics. Fall 2023, Fall 2024	Penn State
Teaching Assistant for Undergrad. Courses (Econometrics, Applied and Comp. Econ.) Fall 2021 – Spring 2023	Penn State
Teaching Assistant (Thesis Seminar, Development Econ.), Department of Economics. January 2021 – July 2021	ITAM

SKILLS

Computer Skills	R, Stata, QGIS, L ^A T _E X, Julia, HPC (Roar supercomputer at Penn State): Linux/Unix, SLURM
Languages	Spanish (native), English (fluent)

PERSONAL INFORMATION

Citizenship:	Mexico, Spain (EU)
Work Authorization:	US F1 visa; USMCA TN visa eligible