

SUSAN J. MÉNDEZ

MELBOURNE INSTITUTE OF APPLIED ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL RESEARCH
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RESEARCH FIELDS

Health economics, digital health, empirical industrial organisation, regulation and competition policy.

ACADEMIC POSITIONS

Since 09/2021	Senior Research Fellow, The Melbourne Institute: Applied Economic and Social Research, University of Melbourne
04/2015-08/2021	Research Fellow in Health and Healthcare, The Melbourne Institute: Applied Economic and Social Research, University of Melbourne
04/2014-03/2015	Research Fellow in Education and Child Development, The Melbourne Institute: Applied Economic and Social Research, University of Melbourne
06/2008-09/2013	Research Associate, Chair for Entrepreneurship, Department of Business Administration, University of Zurich
09/2011-08/2012	Visiting Scholar, Business and Public Policy Department, The Wharton School, University of Pennsylvania

EDUCATION

06/2014	Ph.D. in Management and Economics (<i>Summa Cum Laude</i>) University of Zurich, Switzerland Dissertation title: “Essays in Regulation of Pharmaceutical Markets” Dissertation committee: Prof. Dr. Ulrich Kaiser, Prof. Dr. Armin Schmutzler
12/2007	M.A. in Economics, University of Zurich, Switzerland

PEER-REVIEWED PUBLICATIONS

- “Price transparency in specialist markets”
Susan J. Méndez, Jongsay Yong, Anthony Scott, Khic-Houy Prang, and Adam Elshaug
Australian Economic Review, 59, **2026**. [Link]
- “Does Telemedicine affect prescribing quality in primary care? The case of antibiotics”
Daniel Avdic, Johannes S. Kunz, Susan J. Méndez, and Maria Wiśniewska
Journal of Health Economics, 103096, **2026**. [Link]
- “Junior doctors’ specialty choice: Stated and revealed preferences over more than a decade”
Susan J. Méndez, Anthony Scott, and Peter Sivey
Labour Economics, 94, **2025**. [Link]
- ‘Charge what you think you’re worth’: a qualitative study exploring the gender pay gap in medicine and the role of price transparency.
Camille La Brooy, Hana Sabanovic, Susan J. Méndez, Jongsay Yong, Anthony Scott, Adam Elshaug, and Khic-Houy Prang

- Internal Medicine Journal*, 55(3), **2025**. [Link]
- “Sources of specialist physician fee variation: Evidence from Australian health insurance claims data”
Jongsay Yong, Adam Elshaug, Susan J. Méndez, Khic-Houy Prang, and Anthony Scott
Health Policy, 147, **2024**. [Link]
- “Therapeutic substitution in response to patent expiry? Statins in Australia”
Christopher Bates and Susan J. Méndez
Economic Papers: A Journal of Applied Economics and Policy, 43(2), **2024**. [Link]
- “It’s not a one operation fits all”: a qualitative study exploring fee setting and participation in price transparency initiatives amongst medical specialists in the Australian private healthcare sector
Hana Sabanovic, Camille La Brooy, Susan J. Méndez, Jongsay Yong, Anthony Scott, Adam Elshaug, and Khic-Houy Prang
Social Science and Medicine, 339, **2023**. [Link]
- “Gender differences in physician decisions to adopt new prescription drugs”
Susan J. Méndez, Anthony Scott and Yuting Zhang
Social Science and Medicine, 277, **2021**. [Link]
- “Factors affecting general practitioners’ decisions to adopt new prescription drugs– cohort analyses using Australian longitudinal physician survey data”
Yuting Zhang, Susan J. Méndez and Anthony Scott
BMC Health Services Research, 19(1), 94, **2019**. [Link]
- “Gendered choices of STEM subjects for matriculation are not driven by prior differences in mathematical achievement”
Moshe Justman and Susan J. Méndez
Economics of Education Review, 64, 282-297, **2018**. [Link]
- “Parallel trade of pharmaceuticals: The Danish market for statins”
Susan J. Méndez
Health Economics, 27(2), 333-356, **2018**. [Link]
- “Regulation of pharmaceutical prices: Evidence from a reference price reform in Denmark”
Ulrich Kaiser, Susan J. Méndez, Thomas Rønne and Hannes Ullrich
Journal of Health Economics, 36, 174-187, **2014**. [Link]

NON PEER-REVIEWED PUBLICATIONS

- “Policy Forum: Affordable specialist care”
Susan J. Méndez and Jongsay Yong,
Australian Economic Review, **2026**. [Link]
- “Policy Forum: Medicare at 40”
Susan J. Méndez
Australian Economic Review, 57(2), **2024**. [Link]

WORKING PAPERS

Drafts available upon request.

- “The responses of physicians to a fall in demand for voluntary private health insurance”
Anthony Scott, Susan J. Méndez and Jongsay Yong.
MI WP 11/25.
- “Does community health reduce hospital utilisation? Evidence from Australia”
Susan J. Méndez, Harshita Bhatia, Niki Dunbar, Anthony Scott, and Jongsay Yong.

- “When Dads Can’t Get on the Beers: The Positive Impact of COVID-19 on Parental Drinking Behaviour”
Martina Repetto, Julie Moschion, Susan Sawyer, Susan J. Méndez.
- “Medical pricing decisions: Evidence from Australian specialists”
Susan J. Méndez, Anthony Scott, Jongsay Yong and Hugh Gravelle.
MI WP 11/24, SSRN.
- “Freezing in Australia? The impact of a freeze in payment indexation on general practitioners”
Tor Iversen, Susan J. Méndez, Kushneel Prakash, and Anthony Scott.
- “Surfing in Australia: Internet access and productivity in healthcare”
Diana Contreras Suárez, Susan J. Méndez, Arezou Zaresani.
- “The impact of nurse-led care coordination on healthcare utilisation: A quasi-experimental Australian study using linked electronic health records”
R. Fisher, O. Yang, S. Méndez, C. McPhee, H. Lack, J. Yong, Y. Zhang, and K. Saxby.
- “Who Gets MyMedicare and When? Patient Characteristics and the Likelihood of Registration”
R. Fisher, O. Yang, S. Méndez, J. Yong, Y. Zhang, C. McPhee, H. Lack, and K. Saxby.
- “The falling growth in the use of private hospitals in Australia”
Tianshu Bai, Susan J. Méndez, Anthony Scott, and Jongsay Yong.
MI WP 18/20, Policy brief, MI virtual Colloquium
- “How do drug prices respond to a change from external to internal reference pricing? Evidence from a Danish regulatory reform”
Ulrich Kaiser and Susan J. Méndez. MI WP 4/15. [Link].
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WORK IN PROGRESS

- “The impact of telemedicine use on prices and service provision in general practice: Evidence from Australia”
Paul Amores, Daniel Avdic, Bishal K. Chalise, Susan J. Méndez, Carol Propper, and Anthony Scott.
- “Teams in the operating room”
Susan J. Méndez, Jongsay Yong, Khic-Houy Prang, Adam Elshaug and Anthony Scott
- “Evaluating the effect of a price transparency intervention on doctors’ fees”
Khic-Houy Prang, Jongsay Yong, Susan J. Méndez, Adam Elshaug and Anthony Scott
- “Informational barriers and the demand for private health insurance”
Susan J. Méndez and Kevin Staub
- “Referral concentration among primary care physicians and specialist affordability”
Ryan Liang, Susan J. Méndez, Ou Yang, and Yuting Zhang
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CONTRACT RESEARCH REPORTS

- Evaluation of Right Care Better Health
R. Fisher, O. Yang, S. Méndez, J. Yong, Y. Zhang, K. Saxby.
Research report for the Eastern Melbourne Primary Health Network, **2025**.
- Evaluation of Community Health Services in Victoria: A Scoping Study
Susan J. Méndez, Jongsay Yong, Anthony Scott, Harshita Bhatia
Research report for The Victorian Department of Treasury and Finance, **2024**.

- Improving the distribution of doctors through the new Rural Primary Care Stream
 Susan J. Méndez and Anthony Scott
 Research report for The Commonwealth Department of Health, **2018**
- A theoretical model of physician dual practice and implications for empirical work
 Susan J. Méndez and Anthony Scott
 Research report for The World Bank, **2017**
- Gendered choices of VCE subjects in STEM fields
 Moshe Justman and Susan J. Méndez
 Research report for the Victorian Department of Education and Training, **2016**
- Early childhood language and socio-emotional difficulties and educational outcomes
 Susan J. Méndez and Chris Ryan
 Research report for the Victorian Department of Education and Training, **2015**
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POLICY BRIEFS

- Submission to the Senate Community Affairs Legislation Committee in response to: Health Legislation Amendment (Improving Choice and Transparency for Private Health Consumers) Bill.
 A. Scott, S. Méndez, J. Yong and K. Prang, **2026**. [link](#)
- Submission to the Productivity Commission in response to the 2025 interim report on Delivering Quality Care More Efficiently.
 Susan Méndez, Jongsay Yong and Yuting Zhang, **2025** [link](#)
- Submission to the Independent Hospital and Aged Care Pricing Authority in response to the Consultation Paper on the Pricing Framework for Australian Residential Aged Care Services 2024-25.
 Jongsay Yong, Susan Méndez, Ou Yang, Yuting Zhang, **2023** [link](#)
- “Improving access to health care in Australia”
 Anthony Scott, Susan Méndez and Yuting Zhang
 Chapter 6 in *Dawkins, P. & Payne A. A. (Eds.) Melbourne Institute Compendium 2022: Economic & Social Policy: Towards Evidence-Based Policy Solutions*. Melbourne Institute: Applied Economic & Social Research, the University of Melbourne, **2022** [link](#)
- “Help! High levels of parents’ mental distress”
 Barbara Broadway, Susan Méndez and Julie Moschion
 Chapter 5 in *Broadway, B, Payne A. A. & Salamanca, N. (Eds.) Coping with COVID-19: Rethinking Australia*. Melbourne Institute: Applied Economic & Social Research, the University of Melbourne, **2020** [link](#)
- “The future of healthcare after COVID-19”
 Yuting Zhang, Anthony Scott, Judith Liu, Susan Méndez
 Chapter 9 in *Broadway, B, Payne A. A. & Salamanca, N. (Eds.) Coping with COVID-19: Rethinking Australia*. Melbourne Institute: Applied Economic & Social Research, the University of Melbourne, **2020** [link](#)
- “The falling growth in the use of private hospitals in Australia”
 Tianshu Bai, Susan J. Méndez, Anthony Scott and Jongsay Yong.
 Melbourne Institute WP 18/20, **2020** [\[Link\]](#)
Melbourne Institute Research Insight 27/20, “Private or public? The declining growth in the use of private health care in Australia”, **2020** [link](#)
- “Behind closed doors: the surge in mental distress of parents”
 Barbara Broadway, Susan Méndez and Julie Moschion
Melbourne Institute Research Insight 21/20, **2020** [link](#)

Submission to the Productivity Commission inquiry into Introducing Competition and Informed User Choice into Human Services: Identifying Sectors for Reform
Anthony Scott, Jongsay Yong, Susan Mendez, **2016** [link](#)

“Drug pricing reforms: the Danish experience”
Ulrich Kaiser, Susan J. Mendez, Thomas Rønde and Hannes Ullrich
European Pharmaceutical Review, 20 (2), 18-19, **2015**

“Regulatorische Reform und Pharmapreise: Ergebnisse aus Dänemark”
Ulrich Kaiser, Susan J Mendez and Thomas Rønde
in: H. J. Ramser and M. Stadler (Eds), *Marktmacht: Wirtschafts- wissenschaftliches Seminar Ottobeuren*, 39, Mohr Siebeck: Tübingen, 265-282, **2010**

TEACHING

Lecture in Global Leadership Program in Health Systems and Analytics - Junior doctor's specialty choice and price transparency

University of Melbourne, Dec. 2025, Jul. 2026

Case Studies in Microeconomic Policy - Module 3: Health Care Markets

ECON90068, Masters program, Department of Economics

University of Melbourne, Semester 1, 2016, 2017

Guest lecture in Public Economics - Health Care Markets

ECON40011/90027, Masters and Honours program, Department of Economics

University of Melbourne, Semester 2, 2016, 2017

Industry Practicum – Co-advising

BUSA90502, Master of Business Analytics, Melbourne Business School

University of Melbourne, Semester 2, 2016, 2018

Economics of Innovation – Tutorials

M.A. program, Department of Business Administration

University of Zurich, Spring semester, 2009, 2010, 2011

GRANTS

Faculty of Business and Economics – ARC Support Package, **2025**. “Assessing the role of community health in improving human development” (S. Méndez (PI), J. Yong) (AUD 10,000)

Faculty of Business and Economics – ARC Support Package, **2025**. “The Economics of Digital Health” (S. Méndez (PI), D. Avdic) (AUD 10,000)

Faculty of Business and Economics – Faculty Research Grant, **2024**. “Transparency payment laws in pharmaceutical markets” (S. Méndez (PI)) (AUD 14,949)

Faculty of Business and Economics – Faculty Research Grant, **2022**. “Informational barriers and the demand for private health insurance” (S. Méndez (PI), K. Staub) (AUD 9,911)

Medibank Health Research Fund, **2021–2023**. “The impact of price transparency on price variation and out of pocket costs” (M. Kelaher (PI), K. Prang, A. Scott, J. Yong, S. Méndez) (AUD 664,275)

Faculty of Business and Economics – Faculty Research Grant, **2017**. “Prescribing behaviours and the diffusion of innovations” (S. Méndez (PI)) (AUD 18,919)

University of Melbourne – Melbourne Early Career Researcher Grant Scheme, **2015**. “Rebate contracts in pharmaceutical markets” (S. Méndez (PI)) (AUD 22,251)

Swiss National Science Foundation – Fellowship for Prospective Researchers Nr. PBZHP1–138689, academic year **2011–2012**. “Parallel trade in pharmaceutical markets” and to visit The Wharton School, University of Pennsylvania (S. Méndez (PI)) (USD 41,800)

PRESENTATIONS

** Scheduled*

CONFERENCES AND WORKSHOPS: ACADEMIC AUDIENCES

NATIONAL

Workshop on the Economics of Health and Wellbeing, 2016, 2018, 2022, 2024, 2025, (Hepburn Springs)

Australian Health Economics Society Conference, 2014 (Adelaide), 2016 (Perth), 2017 (Sydney), 2021 (virtual), 2022 (Brisbane), 2023 (Adelaide), 2024 (Sydney), 2025 (Canberra), 2026 *(Hobart)

Australasian Workshop on Econometrics and Health Economics, 2018 (Lorne), 2022 (Sydney)

Australian Gender Economics Workshop, 2019 (Melbourne), 2025 (Wollongong)

National Medicines Symposium, 2018 (Canberra)

Labour Econometrics Workshop, 2016 (Canberra)

Australian Conference of Economists, 2014 (Hobart)

INTERNATIONAL

Workshop on Applied Economics in Digital Health, 2024, 2026 (Potsdam)

International Health Economics Association Congress, 2017 (Boston, MA), 2021 (Virtual), 2023 (Cape Town), 2025 (Denpasar)

American Society of Health Economists, 2025 (Nashville, TN)

European Conference on Health Economics, 2010 (Helsinki), 2018 (Maastricht), 2024 (Vienna)

Asian & Australasian Society of Labour Economics, 2023 (Taipei)

IRDES-DAUPHINE Workshop on Applied Health Economics and Policy Evaluation, 2018

Nordic Health Economists’ Study Group Meeting, 2017 (Helsinki)

Econometric Society Latin American Meeting, 2016 (Medellín)

Annual Health Econometrics Workshop & Australasian Workshop on Econometrics and Health Economics, 2015 (Honolulu, HI)

International Panel Data Conference, 2014 (Tokyo)

European Association for Research in Industrial Economics, 2010 (Istanbul), 2013 (Évora)

Congress of the European Economic Association, 2013 (Gothenburg)

Competition Law and Economics European Network “CLEEN” Workshop, 2013 (Bergen)

International Industrial Organization Conference, 2011 (Boston, MA)

Symposium of the German Economic Association for Business Administration, 2009 (Vallendar)

Workshop on the Economics of Industrial Organization and Innovation, KULeuven/STRIKE/COST, 2009 (La Bastide d’Anjou, France)

Zurich Workshop on Economics, University of Zurich, 2011 (Lucerne)

INVITED SEMINARS: ACADEMIC AUDIENCES

Center for Health, Policy, and Economics, University of Lucerne, 2024 (Lucerne, Switzerland)

School of Economics, University of Sydney, 2024 (Sydney, Australia)

Macquarie University Centre for the Health Economy, 2024 (Sydney, Australia)

Centre for Health Economics Research and Evaluation, University of Technology Sydney, 2024 (Sydney, Australia)

Centre for Health Economics, Monash University, 2016, 2021 (Melbourne, Australia)

Centre for Health Economics, University of York, 2017 (York, England)

Department of Health Economics and Health Management, Institute of Health and Society, University of Oslo, 2017 (Oslo, Norway)

Centre for Transformative Innovation, Swinburne University of Technology, 2017 (Melbourne, Australia)

Economics Department, Universidad del Rosario, 2016 (Bogotá, Colombia)

Economics and Finance Seminar, La Trobe University, 2015 (Melbourne, Australia)

Applied Microeconomics/CDES Seminar, Monash University, 2015 (Melbourne, Australia)

Melbourne Institute, University of Melbourne, 2014 (Melbourne, Australia)

Business Economics Research Seminar, University of Zurich, 2010 (Zurich, Switzerland)

Ph.D. Workshop, Center for European Economic Research, 2009 (Mannheim, Germany)

Microeconometrics Ph.D. Seminar, University of Zurich, 2009 (Zurich, Switzerland)

INVITED SPEAKER: NON-ACADEMIC AUDIENCES

Invited speaker. OECD Best Practice Roundtable - Competition and Regulation in the Healthcare Sector. Paris, 2026. [link](#)

Panel speaker. Public Economic Forum - Affordable specialist care, Canberra, 2026.

Panel speaker. Healthcare Transitions: Understanding the drivers of innovation in healthcare, University of Technology Sydney, 2026.

Invited speaker. Panel discussion “The Business of Medicine: Public vs Private healthcare” University of Melbourne MD Student Conference, 2023.

Invited speaker. Health Economics Round Table, Research Australia, Monash University, 2023.

Main speaker. Melbourne Institute Virtual Colloquium “The falling growth in the use of private health care”
University of Melbourne, 2020 Video and Q&A.

Main speaker. Roundtable “Cost-savings in EU healthcare systems”
European Association of Euro-Pharmaceutical Companies, 2018, Brussels.

MEDIA AND INTERVIEWS

2024	“Medicare is covering less of specialist visits. But why are doctors’ fees so high in the first place?” The Conversation Link. Radio interview: 2CC Canberra.
2022	Cosmos Magazine: How medicinal drugs get listed on the PBS Link Future-proofing the PBS and our health Link RMIT ABC Fact Check:

	Labor has reheated its 'Mediscare' campaign for the 2022 election. How do its claims stack up? Link
2021	“The falling growth in the use of private hospitals in Australia” The report featured in <i>Public or Private Hospital? Changes in attitudes and use</i>, Croakey. Authored by Leanne Wells, CEO of the Consumers Health Forum of Australia. RMIT ABC Fact Check: Greg Hunt says nearly 90 per cent of people receive their GP services for free. Is he correct? Link
2020	“Help! High levels of parents’ mental distress” Pursuit: Parents with children at home reach breaking point. TV interviews: Ticker TV, Sky News. “Behind closed doors: the surge in mental distress of parents” Pursuit: Parents of school-aged kids during COVID-19? Yes, you are stressed, The Australian, The Australian Financial Review
2017	“Gendered choices of STEM subjects for matriculation are not driven by prior differences in mathematical achievement” The Guardian, The Australian, The Huffington Post, The Herald Sun. Radio interviews: News talk on 3AW 693, The breakfast show on Radio Adelaide, Hullabaloo on RRR

PROFESSIONAL ACTIVITIES

Editorial role	Australian Economic Review, since 2023	
Convenor	in the Special Interest Group – Digital Health Technology, International Health Economics Association (iHEA), since 2024.	
Advisory group	Member of the advisory group of Community Health First Data and Evaluation Project, since 2024.	
Expert evidence	Arbitration of public hospitals determination in respect of Visiting Medical Officers in New South Wales, 2026.	
Reviewer for:	Journal of Health Economics Journal of Labor Economics Health Economics Social Science and Medicine Health Policy Health Policy and Technology European Journal of Health Economics Australian Health Review Medical Journal of Australia Health Care Management Science	Review of Industrial Organization Labour Economics Journal of Economic Behavior and Organization Economic Inquiry Canadian Journal of Economics Australian Economic Review Educational Review Cuadernos de Economía.
	National Medical Research Council, Singapore, 2021	
	Scientific committee: - 1st Economics of the Healthcare Workforce Workshop, Surrey, UK, 2023 - Australian Gender Economics Workshop, 2021, 2025 - Labour Econometrics Workshop (LEW) 2025	

Best Paper Prize selection committee, Australian Health Economics Society, 2021, 2023

External Honours thesis examiner, University of Wollongong, 2019

Faculty service: Coordinator of the University of Melbourne Health Economics Group, since 2018
 Chair of Melbourne Institute Professional Development Committee, 2021, 2022
 Member of the Junior Hiring Committee, 2021
 Member of the Faculty of Business and Economics Content Advisory Committee, University of Melbourne, 2017

Supervision: Martina Repetto, Doctoral program, ongoing
 Christopher A. Bates, Masters program, 2021
 Tanji Hwang, Research Assistant, 2017

Local Organizer: Public Economic Forum - Affordable specialist care, Canberra, 2026.
 Healthcare Transitions: Understanding the drivers of innovation in healthcare, with D. Avdic, G. van Empel, P. Amores, 2026. [link](#).
 Algorithmic decision-making in clinical care, iHEA Webinar with M. Liverani, 2025. [link](#)
 Reshaping our healthcare system in the age of AI, Melbourne Institute, HALE Forum with Y. Zhang, 2025
 University of Melbourne Health Economics Group Annual Workshop, University of Melbourne, 2017, 2020, 2022.
 Inaugural Variations in Healthcare Workshop with D. Avdic (CHE Monash), 2020. Over 100 attendees. Academic and non-academic audiences.
 Brown Bag Seminar Series, Melbourne Institute, 2015, 2016.
 Inaugural Zurich Workshop on Economics, University of Zurich, 2011.
 HUI – Seminar, University of Zurich, 2010.
 6th Workshop on Media Economics, University of Zurich, 2008.

OTHER INFORMATION

Citizenship: Citizen of Australia, Colombia and Switzerland

Languages: Spanish (native), English (fluent), German (fluent)

Melbourne, March 2026.