

# Justine Mallatt

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## Education

Ph. D., Economics, Purdue University, expected May 2018

Committee Chairs: Jillian Carr and Kevin Mumford

M.S., Economics, Purdue University, May 2015

B.A., Economics and Mathematics, Western Washington University, June 2013

## Research Fields

Health Economics, Labor Economics, Public Economics

## Working Papers

- 1.) “The Effect of Prescription Drug Monitoring Programs on Opioid Prescriptions and Heroin Crime Rates” (Job Market Paper)

Abstract: In response to growing abuse of prescription opioid painkillers, 50 U.S. states have implemented electronic prescription drug monitoring programs (PDMPs) that record patients into a state-wide system when a prescription opioid is received. Prescribers can later access the PDMP and observe the controlled substance histories of patients. This paper uses a difference-in-differences framework and interactive fixed effects factor models to identify the effect of PDMPs and two related programs on the types and strengths of opioid painkiller prescriptions filled and their effects on heroin crime rates. The implementation of PDMP databases caused an 8% decrease in oxycodone shipments, with results from Medicaid prescription data pointing to larger decreases within large dosage pills. PDMPs have heterogeneous effects on heroin crime incidents across counties depending on the county's pre-policy level of prescription opioid milligrams per capita, with large increases in heroin crime within the most opioid-dense counties.

- 2.) “The Effect of Supply-Side Opioid Legislation on Opioid-Related Business Establishments”

Abstract: Between 2003 and 2017, 50 states passed combinations of laws that influence the supply-side of the prescription opioid market to reduce prescription opioid abuse. Various legislation includes prescription drug monitoring programs (PDMPs) and doctor usage mandates of the programs, the abuse-proof reformulation of brand-name opioid OxyContin, and “pill mill” crackdowns targeting practices and prescribers who dispense opioids on site. I use a difference-in-differences methodology supplemented with an interactive fixed effects factor model to identify the effect of the policies on the number of opioid-related business establishments, such as the number of substance abuse treatment facilities, doctors’ offices, and pharmacies, among other establishments. I find evidence that “pill mill” crackdowns reduce the number of establishments categorized as “miscellaneous medical clinics,” which includes pain therapy centers, by an average of 1.7 clinics per county, or 12 clinics per state. There is some evidence that the implementation of PDMPs reduces the number of doctors’ offices by 3 per

county, and that user-access mandates added to existing PDMPs cause a small increase in the number of psychiatric and substance abuse inpatient hospitals, but these results are less robust.

### 3.) “The Effects of Pharmacist Refusal Legislation on Contraception and Birthrates”

Abstract: 26 states have passed legislation that legally enables or prohibits pharmacists from refusing to fill prescriptions for emergency contraceptives, such as Plan B One Step, on the basis of moral objections pharmacists may have towards the highly controversial drugs. I implement a differences-in-differences framework to identify the impact of pharmacist-refusal legislations on prescriptions for emergency contraceptives and traditional birth control pills, as well as the effect of the policies on birth rates. Policies that enable pharmacist refusal to fill emergency contraceptive prescriptions cause an increase in prescriptions for traditional birth control pills in the states that implement them. States that allow pharmacists to write and fill emergency contraceptive prescriptions at the pharmacy realize a decrease in prescriptions for traditional oral contraceptive pills, but this result is statistically imprecise under some model specifications. Birthrates are not permanently affected by pharmacist refusal legislation, but there is weak evidence that the policies may have short-term effects among black populations.

## Works in Progress

I am currently working with Purdue University’s Regenstrief Center for Healthcare Engineering to obtain Medicaid individual claims data in order to find further effects of opioid prescription regulation on patient and doctor behavior.

- 1.) “Doctor Response to Prescription Monitoring Programs and their Mandates” with Svetlana Beilfuss
- 2.) “Evidence of Prescription Painkiller Diversion Among Medicaid Enrollees”
- 3.) “The Effect of Prescription Opioid Supply-Side Interventions on Drug Seeking Behavior in Emergency Departments”

## Presentations

“The Effect of Prescription Drug Monitoring Programs on Opioid Prescriptions and Heroin Crime Rates” (scheduled) **Southern Economic Association in Tampa, FL. November 2017.**

“The Effect of Prescription Drug Monitoring Programs on Opioid Prescriptions and Heroin Crime Rates” (scheduled) **Association for Public Policy Analysis and Management in Chicago, IL. November 2017.**

“The Effect of Prescription Drug Monitoring Programs on Opioid Prescriptions and Heroin Crime Rates” **Midwest Economic Association in Cincinnati, OH. March 2017.**

“The Effects of Pharmacist Refusal on Contraception and Birthrates” **Association for Public Policy Analysis and Management in Washington, DC. November 2016 poster session.**

## Research Experience

Research Assistant to Tim Bond, Fall 2013

Research Assistant to Kevin Mumford, Fall 2014

Eli Lilly Education Grand Project, Spring 2015—Fall 2015

## **Teaching Experience**

Instructor, Introduction to Macroeconomics, 2 sections. Spring 2016. Mean rating= 4.3/5 and 4.1/5.  
Instructor, Introduction to Macroeconomics Online, 2 sections. Summer 2015.  
Recitation Section Instructor, Principles of Economics. Spring 2014. Mean rating 4.7/5.  
Teaching Assistant, Masters Students Econometrics Online. Summer 2017.  
Teaching Assistant, Public Finance and Taxation. Spring 2017.  
Teaching Assistant, International Trade. Fall 2014.  
Teaching Assistant, Labor Economics. Fall 2013.

## **Honors and Awards**

Krannert Certificate for Outstanding Teaching, Purdue University. Economics 252: Introduction to Macroeconomics, Spring 2016  
Krannert Certificate for Distinguished Teaching, Purdue University. Economics 252 Online: Introduction to Macroeconomics, Summer 2015  
Krannert Certificate for Outstanding Teaching, Purdue University. Economics 252 Online: Introduction to Macroeconomic, Summer 2015  
Krannert Certificate for Distinguished Recitation Teaching, Purdue University. Economics 210 Recitation: Principles of Economics, Spring 2014.  
Beta Gamma Sigma Business Honors Society, Western Washington University 2013.

## **Student Associations**

Krannert Doctoral Student Association, Social Coordinator 2015-2018

## **References**

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Contact Matt Pavey ([mpavey@purdue.edu](mailto:mpavey@purdue.edu)) to obtain letters of recommendation from these references.