IMPACT OF PATIENT CHARACTERISTICS ON THE QUALITY OF HEALTH CARE

Aim:
- Patients’ socioeconomic status determines the quality of care they receive
- Understand the two main ways how socioeconomic status influences health behavior and the quality of care over the life course:
  1. through the family one is born into
  2. through the spouse one chooses

Methods:
- Make use of long panels or surveys with retrospective modules, e.g. PSID or SHARE
- Use shocks to early-life socioeconomic status to identify long-term effects on preventive behavior and quality of care
- Use structural models from family economics, e.g. matching models, to study behavior on marriage markets, and link this to preventive care decisions

Contribution
- Link between family and health economics
- Investigating the impact of the family on preventive care and quality of care

Pls and interdisciplinary integration
- Expertise on link between patients characteristics and quality of care, data
- Expertise on measurement of quality of care
- Expertise on structural methods, long-term effects, data

Potential dissertation topics:
- Analyzing the role of early-life factors for preventive care choices and for the quality of care received over the life cycle
- Analyzing the role of the spouse for preventive care choices over the life cycle