IMPACT OF HEALTH INSURERS’ INVESTMENTS IN THE QUALITY OF HEALTH CARE

Aim:
- Analyzing the role of insurer investments for health outcomes
- Understanding the strategic trade-off between costs of benefits of quality of care incentives for health insurers

Methods:
- Collect and utilize variation in quality investment for German health insurers and link to newly available data for German sickness funds made available by BfArM
- For the U.S. market segment, utilize regulatory data: exploit variation in quality investment to identify impact on claims cost
- Utilization of state of the art methods for causal inference, cross-sectional and panel data analysis

Contribution
- Establish evidence that health insurers impact quality of care by providing financial incentives
- Understand the strategic prioritization of quality of care investments and quantify cost and benefit of strategic quality investments of health insurers

Potential dissertation topics:
- Impact of insurer investment in quality of care on patients’ health
- Impact of insurer investment in quality of care on the financial performance of a health insurer