



SEMINAR

Monday, 14th January 2008, 10:00-11:00am

Bob Douglas Lecture Theatre

Building 62a, Eggleston Road

The Australian National University, Canberra

Health and income across the life cycle in Europe: Disentangling age and cohort effects

Dr Tom Van Ourti

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The Speaker

Tom Van Ourti is assistant professor at the Erasmus School of Economics, Rotterdam (NL) and is currently on sabbatical leave at the University of Melbourne. Tom Van Ourti's main research interest is the application of econometric techniques to the measurement of inequalities in health and health care, and international (mainly European) comparisons of equity in health and health care.

Abstract

European panel data are used to identify how the mean level and variability of self-assessed health, and its correlation with income, evolve over the life cycle and differ across generations for 11 EU countries using an age-cohort decomposition. Mean health declines at a greatly accelerated rate above the age of 70. In southern European countries and in Ireland, which have experienced faster economic growth in recent decades, the health of younger generations is significantly better than that of older generations. This is not observed in the northern European countries. There is no consistent evidence that the variability of health increases with age, but this is true in Britain, France and Germany. In the former two countries and the Netherlands, at least for males, the correlation between health and income does peak around retirement age, as has been found for the US, but this pattern is not observed in the other countries. In most countries, and unlike the US, there is no evidence that income-related health inequality is greater among younger than older generations.

Parking

A campus map for ANU can be viewed on the University's web site ([click here](#)). Visitors to the campus are advised to take a taxi to the venue if possible. The closest Pay Parking is at University House (pay at the meter in the quadrangle). Access to the Bob Douglas Lecture Theatre is by direct entry into Building 62a off Eggleston Road, or by entry through Building 62 off Mills Road.

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