

Health Economics and Policy

Annual Report 2019



WU

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Health Economics and Policy (HEP) Group

2019 Annual Report of activity

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Highlights

- We supervised **7 Bachelor's theses** from a wide variety of students majoring in Socioeconomics, International Business Administration, Business Information Systems, and more. We also supervised **6 Master's theses** in the fields of Economics, Socioeconomics, Management, and Socio-Ecological Economics and Policy.
- Team members have written **13 new manuscripts** including publications in leading international academic journals such as Social Sciences and Medicine and the European Journal of Health Economics.
- Daniela Weber has received the **APART GSK Grant (340,000 EUR)** from the Österreichische Akademie der Wissenschaften (OeAW).
- In July, we hosted the fourth instalment of the **American-European Health Economics Study Group** at the Executive Academy, which provides a forum for bringing together graduates and researchers who wish to discuss their work-in-progress in any area of health economics. During the two-day event 28 presentations were held in total, including 3 international keynotes and 13 pitch presentations.
- As every year for the past four years, we have hosted the **Vienna Health Care Lectures** at the Executive Academy at WU in a joint mission with the Hauptverband der österreichischen Sozialversicherung (The Austrian Federation of Social Security Institutions) and the Institute for Advanced Studies (Institut für höhere Studien). The multi-day summer school is a yearly event that aims to prepare the latest developments in the field of health care for practical application. International lecturers presented tools to better involve insured persons in performance planning and discussed examples of how to shape policy implementation processes.
- During the first half of 2019 we worked hard on our application for the **European Health Economics Association (EUHEA) Conference 2022**, which was a joint effort between us, the Hauptverband der österreichischen Sozialversicherung (The Austrian Federation of Social Security Institutions) and the Gesundheit Österreich (Health Austria) and we are proud to announce that in September the Executive Committee awarded us the Conference. It will take place from June 26 to 29, 2022 at WU Campus.
- Marcel Bilger has become the **President of the Austrian Health Economics Association (ATHEA)**. His 2-year term will last from September 2019 to September 2021.
- **Prof. Owen O'Donnell** (Erasmus School of Economics and University of Macedonia) has joined HEP's Advisory Board to provide guidance to our Group on scientific matters.

1. The Health Economics and Policy (HEP) Group

1.1. The team

Marcel Bilger, Professor of Health Economics, HEP Head

Marcel Bilger holds a Ph.D. in Economics and Social Sciences with a specialization in Econometrics and Statistics from the University of Geneva. During his doctoral studies, he completed the International Doctoral Program in Health Economics and Policy from the Swiss School of Public Health+. After his Ph.D., Marcel worked as a Consultant for the Development Research Group at the World Bank, and as a Post-doctoral Research Scholar at the Harris School of Public Policy at the University of Chicago. As a tenure-track Assistant Professor, he then led the Laboratory of Health Econometrics in the Signature Program for Health Services and Systems Research at Duke-NUS Medical School in Singapore while being Assistant Director for Education in the Program. Marcel has joined the Vienna University of Economics and Business in October 2018 as the new Head of the Health Economics and Policy Group. He currently serves as President of the Austrian Health Economics Association (ATHEA).

During his career, Marcel has published in leading journals in health economics, health services research, and medicine as well as a book on health equity and financial protection. He is deeply passionate about the equity and sustainability of health systems. His work also includes the study of modifiable health risk factors such as obesity, lack of physical activity, and non-adherence to medications. In his new position, he now aims at offering innovative courses in health economics and policy in close partnership with the healthcare industry. His research objectives include developing a new framework that will consider both efficiency and equity considerations in efforts to guide health policymaking in Austria and internationally. His ultimate goal is to contribute to health equity and to the strengthening of health systems, while simultaneously training the next generation of leaders.

Mujaheed Shaikh, Assistant Professor, HEP, left in May 2019

Mujaheed joined the Health Economics and Policy Division of Vienna University of Economics and Business as an Assistant Professor (non-tenure track) in July 2016. He completed his MSc in International Health Management with a distinction from Imperial College London in 2012 and his PhD in Health Economics from Frankfurt School of Finance and Management, Germany in 2016.

His research is in the field of health economics and management with a particular focus on the impact of different types of health spending such as pharmaceutical expenditures on health and economic outcomes. He also has a keen interest in policy related issues such as inequity in malaria funding, social determinants of health system responsiveness, inequity in healthcare utilization etc. in developing countries. Some of his research work also relates to organizational changes in hospitals and its effect on productivity.

Daniela Weber, Assistant Professor, HEP, came back from maternity leave in April 2019

Daniela Weber, since fall 2016 Assistant Professor of the HEP division, came back from maternity leave in end of April 2019. Next to being a team member of the HEP division, she is also a research scholar within the World Population Program at the International Institute for Applied Systems Analysis, Laxenburg. Dr. Weber graduated in technical mathematics at the Vienna University of Technology in 2005 and in 2012 she graduated in statistics at the University of Vienna. She completed her PhD at the Vienna University of Economics and Business in 2015 with the dissertation entitled "An International Perspective on Aging and Cognitive Decline".

Her research focuses on the demographic and economic perspectives in research on aging and health, whereas the international perspective is of particular interest to her. Next to societal determinants of cognitive and physical aging such as differential effects of societal living conditions on men's and women's cognitive functioning, she is also interested in behavioral and socioeconomic determinants.

Anna-Theresa Renner, PhD student, HEP

Anna-Theresa Renner joined the Health Economics and Policy Division at the Vienna University of Economics and Business in fall 2016 as a Doctorate student. Her dissertation is using administrative data to investigate geographical and socioeconomic inequalities in the access to primary healthcare, focussing in particular on Austria. Anna holds a Master of Science in Health Economics Policy and Law from Erasmus University (The Netherlands) and a Master in Economics (Mag.rer.soc.oec) from the Department of Economics of the University of Vienna. Before joining the Division, Anna was a researcher at the Austrian Public Health Institute, Department for Health Economics (Gesundheit Österreich GmbH).

Her research focus is on the accessibility and utilization of outpatient health care services. She is particularly interested in socioeconomic inequalities in the distribution and reachability of healthcare services, and mostly works with comprehensive administrative data sources. Methodologically, she is interested in how to incorporate the spatial dimension into health economic and health service research.

Tina Radler, Administrative Assistant, HEP

Tina has a Master's degree in Theater, Film and Media (Mag.phil.) from the University of Vienna. She arrived at HEP in February 2016. She is HEP's eyes and ears when it comes to administrative duties, but she also follows research projects from a close perspective and developed the HEP website. Before joining HEP, she has worked as an assistant for an orthopaedic surgeon in Vienna and in the HR Department of a publicly traded real estate company. Tina is familiar with standard computer packages and with film-editing and web-editing programs. Her mother tongue is German, she's perfectly fluent in English and is taking French and Spanish classes regularly.

Marion Kogler, student assistant, HEP

Marion worked with us for a duration of approximately two months in fall of 2019 to support our scientific staff with a research project on disease outbreaks in India.

For more information and for the long-version CVs of all the members, please visit the HEP website:

<https://www.wu.ac.at/hep>

2. Teaching and supervision

2.1. Courses

The diffusion of a culture of health economics and policy in the Viennese and Austrian context must pass through a serious definition of a consistent academic curriculum for undergraduate and graduate students.

At full capacity, HEP will be in charge of 17 hours of teaching per week. This represents a heavy workload that in these early stages could not be spent entirely on new courses directly related to health economics topics. New courses must indeed be gradually introduced in order to fit the purposes and the objectives of ongoing programmes, especially within the Department of Socioeconomics.

Here we outline the courses defined and taught in 2019 by HEP members.

Courses	Program	Members of the group teaching	Content	Period
Economics of the Health Care Industry - Private Sector	Bachelor	Marcel Bilger Mujaheed Shaikh	<i>Foundations and Theory of the private health care industry</i>	SS 2019 WS 2019/20
Economics of the Health Care Industry - Public Sector	Bachelor	Marcel Bilger Anna-Theresa Renner	<i>Foundations and Theory of the public health care industry</i>	SS 2019 WS 2019/20
Interdisciplinary Socio-Economic Research Lab I: Quantitative Methods for evaluation of health and health policy	Master in Socioeconomics	Marcel Bilger Daniela Weber	<i>Urban Health</i>	WS 2019/20
Interdisciplinary Socio-Economic Research Lab II: Quantitative Methods for evaluation of health and health policy	Master in Socioeconomics	Mujaheed Shaikh Daniela Weber	<i>Health Economics</i>	SS 2019
Applied Socio-Economic Theories and Methods II	Master in Socioeconomics	Marcel Bilger Anna-Theresa Renner	<i>Relationship between socioeconomics and health</i>	SS 2019 WS 2019/20
Managerial Economics	Master in Strategy, Innovation and Management Control	Marcel Bilger	<i>Analyzing the behavior of buyers or sellers with a dominant market position (monopolies and monopsonies), corporate strategies, and simple game-theory concepts</i>	SS 2019
Advanced Quantitative Methods for Social and Economic Research	PhD Seminar Socioeconomics	Marcel Bilger	<i>Developing impactful quantitative research questions</i>	WS 2019/20

SS2019: 16 hours

WS2019/20: 13 hours

Guest speakers in our courses:

- Mag. Richard Gauss (Stadt Wien), Economics of the Health Care Industry - Public Sector
- Dr. Timo Fischer (Hauptverband der österreichischen Sozialversicherungsträger), Economics of the Health Care Industry - Public Sector
- Mag. Andreas Goltz (Hauptverband der österreichischen Sozialversicherungsträger), Economics of the Health Care Industry - Public Sector
- Dr. Andreas Kirisits, Economics of the Health Care Industry - Private Sector

2.2. Completed and ongoing supervised theses in 2019

List of completed and ongoing supervised theses:

PhD theses:

- Berger Michael: Safeguarding sustainability of health care: Problem fields and policy appraisal, Doctoral Program in Social and Economic Sciences (ongoing)
- Lepuschütz Lena: Microeconomic analysis of physician and patient decision-making, Doctoral Program in Social and Economic Sciences (ongoing)
- Renner Anna-Theresa: Reasons and implications of variations in access and utilization of primary healthcare services, Doctoral Program in Social and Economic Sciences (ongoing)
- Schneider Peter: Pharmaceutical Policy for High-priced and innovative medicines, PhD Thesis (ongoing)
- Six Eva: Equity and Efficiency in the Austrian Health Care System, Doctoral Program in Social and Economic Sciences (ongoing)

Master theses:

- Del Giudice Pietro: Price Regulation and R&D Expenditures of Pharmaceutical Companies, Master thesis in Economics (completed)
- Föbleitner Sophie: Regional Variation within the Austrian Health Care System, Master thesis in Economics (ongoing)
- Kogler Marion: Differences in educational systems associated with social inequalities in health behaviour, Master Thesis in Socioeconomics (ongoing)
- Oberndorfer Moritz: Wahlärztinnen und Wahlärzte in Österreich - Komplement oder Substitut?, Master thesis in Socioeconomics (completed)
- Speigner-Haxhijaj Marlene: Patient Reported Outcomes Measurements in Use - patients and clinicians view on implementing PROMs in Austria, Master thesis in Socioeconomics (completed)
- Tomaszek Tomas Marek: Influence of the EU General Data Protection Law on Digitalization and Diffusion of Technology of Healthcare Providers, Master thesis in Management (completed)

Bachelor theses:

- Fedrizzi Clemens: Precision/personalised medicine - the future of healthcare, Bachelor thesis in Business, Economics, and Social Sciences (completed)
- Frank Michael Ryan: Theoretical and practical aspects of reimbursement Pricing for pharmaceuticals in Austria, Bachelor thesis in Business, Economics, and Social Sciences (completed)
- Höfler Thomas: Comparative efficiency of Austrian hospitals, Bachelor thesis in Business, Economics, and Social Sciences (completed)
- Horvart Ema: Are mergers and acquisitions hampering research and development in the pharmaceutical industry: A review of the antibiotic industry, Bachelor thesis in Business, Economics, and Social Sciences (ongoing)
- Lackner Paul: Economics, Regulations, and Ethics of Pharmaceutical Pricing in the United States, Bachelor thesis in Business, Economics, and Social Sciences (completed)
- Landauer Astrid: Economic interventions for Workplace Health Promotion in Austria, Bachelor thesis in Business, Economics, and Social Sciences (completed)
- Samida Markus: Comparative efficiency of Austrian hospitals, Bachelor thesis in Business, Economics, and Social Sciences (complete)

3. Research

3.1. New Publications

The list of publications published, accepted for publication, in submission or about to be submitted in 2019 by the members of HEP is the following:

- Orawan Prasitsiriphon and **Weber Daniela**, Objective physical measures and their association with subjective functional limitations in a representative study population of older Thais, *BMC Geriatrics*, 19(1) 2019
- Spitzer S & **Weber D**, Who is telling the truth? Biases in self-reported physical and cognitive health status of older Europeans. IIASA Working Paper. IIASA, Laxenburg, Austria: WP-19-002
- Loichinger E., **Weber D**. (in print) „Combining working life and health expectancies“ Chapter 18 in “International Handbook of Health Expectancy” (editors: Carol Jagger, Eileen M. Crimmins, Herman Van Oyen, Jean Marie Robine and Yasuhiko Saito)
- **Renner, AT**, Inefficiencies in a healthcare system with a regulatory split of power: a spatial panel data analysis of avoidable hospitalisations in Austria. *Eur J Health Econ* (2019). <https://doi.org/10.1007/s10198-019-01113-7>
- Spitzer Sonja, **Weber Daniela** “Reporting biases in self-assessed physical and cognitive health status of older Europeans”, *PLOS ONE*, 14(10): e0223526
- Karen Umansky, Wolfgang Lutz, and **Weber Daniela**, The Impact of Education and Age Cohort on Attitudes toward Immigration in Europe. IIASA Working Paper WP 19-008
- **Weber Daniela**, Scherbov Sergei “Prospects of activity limitations among older adults in low and middle income countries” (under review)
- Jeofrey Abalos, **Weber Daniela**, Booth Heather, Goujon Anne, Steiber Nadia, and Cruz Grace Is children’s education associated with parental health? Evidence from the Philippines. (under review)
- Karen Umansky, Wolfgang Lutz, and **Daniela Weber** The impact of education and age cohort on attitudes toward immigration in Europe. (under review)
- **Weber Daniela** and Elke Loichinger Live longer, retire later? Identifying the potential for longer working lives across Europe. (under review)
- **Bilger M**, Wong TT, Lee JY, Howard KL, Bundoc FG, Lamoureux EL, Finkelstein EA. Using Adherence-Contingent Rebates on Chronic Disease Treatment Costs to Promote Medication Adherence: Results from a Randomized Controlled Trial. *Applied health economics and health policy*. 2019 Jul 18: 1-5
- Finkelstein EA, **Bilger M**, Baid D. Effectiveness and cost-effectiveness of incentives as a tool for prevention of non-communicable diseases: A systematic review. *Social Science & Medicine*. 2019 May 17
- Kwan YH, Fong W, Ang XL, Tan CS, Tai BC, Huang Y, **Bilger M**, Phang JK, Tan HC, Lee JV, Sun L, Tan CT, Dong BQ, Koh HL, Leung YY, Lui NL, Yeo SI, Ng SC, Fong KY, Thumboo J, Østbye T. Traditional Chinese medicine (TCM) collaborative care for patients with axial spondyloarthritis (AcuSpA): protocol for a pragmatic randomized controlled trial. *Trials* 2019;20(1) 46

3.2. Ongoing Projects

Intergenerational transmission of health and well-being: The role of psychological well-being as a mediator for the socioeconomic gradient.

The project we propose aims to follow individual well-being and health over the early stage of life and trace out their consequences on future outcomes. Considering parents and family health and socioeconomic background at birth and genetics as the starting conditions of a dynamic system, we take a life course perspective and analyse the mechanisms through which the socioeconomic dimension can influence the pathways of child development. Our approach considers the psychological well-being as a socioeconomic-related mediating factor that exerts its influence since the early stages of one’s life, in turn affecting the development pathways. HEP will gain access to the Avon Longitudinal Study of Parents and Children (ALSPAC), a unique dataset following more than 14,000 children since before they are born until

they are 20 years old and providing important genetic, health and behavioral information. The project has already received the approval of the ALSPAC committee and data will be available soon (1400 variables + 300 genes).

HEP researchers involved:

Simone Ghislandi, Anna-Theresa Renner, Mujaheed Shaikh, Daniela Weber

Analysis of the association between outpatient physician supply and health care utilisation in Austria

The proposed research project will focus on the utilisation of outpatient services in Austria and the drivers of variations in the frequency of outpatient contacts. We will investigate whether a patient's utilisation (proxied by the number of eCard contacts), and hence his/her resource use, is driven by the level of regional physician supply and which role other factors, such as sociodemographic characteristics of the region and the socioeconomic status of the patient, play. The findings of this analysis will add to the evidence base for policies that aim to achieve efficient distribution of services and resources in the Austrian outpatient health care sector.

HEP researchers involved:

Anna-Theresa Renner

Generic vs Branded Prescription in Austria: The Role of Physicians, Patients, and Pharmacies

The present project focusses on the demand side of the pharmaceutical market, where patient, physicians, and, to a lesser extent, pharmacies, interact and determine prescription patterns and behaviors. The purpose of this project is two-fold. First of all, we will analyse the variation of prescription patterns across doctors (and regions), identifying the extent to which different doctors' prescription behaviours can affect market share of generics and can drive the demand towards more expensive products. Second, we will assess the role that patients and pharmacies have in the prescription/consumption decisions. This is important because if patients' preferences actually play a role in determining the demand for a pharmaceutical product, then any regulation addressing patient's incentives can be expected to affect market shares. Formally, this step will require an analysis of the variance of the prescription behaviours across doctors and patients based on existing prescription patterns data.

HEP researchers involved:

Simone Ghislandi, Mujaheed Shaikh

Discrete Choice Experiments to Analyze Long-term Care Financing Preferences among Midlife Singaporeans

The past three decades has seen rapid population aging in advanced economies. In Singapore, the number of seniors with activity limitations is projected to more than double between 2010 and 2030. At the same time, nuclearization of families, increased labor force participation by women and increased population mobility has reduced the potential supply of informal caregivers around the world. Many governments now face the urgent challenge of financing and providing formal long-term care in a fiscally sustainable manner. One way to mitigate the financial burden on the public sector is by encouraging individuals to prepare for their own long-term care expenses through insurance. Globally, long-term care (LTC) insurance coverage rates are low and, for those who are enrolled, only part of their potential future LTC expenses are covered. We propose to conduct a series of four surveys involving Singaporean citizens aged 40 to 49 to choose between hypothetical insurance plans and financing scenarios. The objective is to analyze the preferences of the respondents for different characteristics of LTC insurance plans and alternative financing mechanisms. Our overall aim is to increase financial protection against LTC costs in Singapore and internationally. This project is funded was awarded a Health Services Research Competitive Grant from the Ministry of Health of Singapore (NMRC/HSRG/0069/2016).

HEP researchers involved:

Marcel Bilger

A Randomized Controlled Trial to Improve Diabetes Outcomes through Financial Incentives

Many people with diabetes have suboptimal glycaemic control due to not being adherent to their treatment regimen. Behavioural economic theory suggests that the lack of adherence results from the disconnect between the timing of

when costs and benefits accrue. One strategy to address this discontinuity is to offer patients a near-term benefit, such as a financial reward. Whereas there is evidence that rewards can improve treatment adherence and sometimes health outcomes, further research is needed to determine whether rewards are more effective when targeting processes or intermediary health outcomes. In the Trial to Incentivise Adherence for Diabetes (TRIAD) we test whether adding financial incentives to usual care can improve HbA1c levels among people with diabetes and whether the financial incentives work better when targeting processes (adherence to blood glucose testing, medication, and daily physical activity) or the primary intermediary health outcome of self-monitored blood glucose within an acceptable range. This project is funded was awarded a Health Services Research Competitive Grant from the NUS Initiative to Improve Health in Asia (NIHA-2013-1-005)

TRIAD

HEP researchers involved:

Marcel Bilger

A spatial panel data analysis of the socioeconomic gradient of avoidable hospitalisations in Austria (ongoing research presented at numerous conferences)

This research project aims at investigating the relationship between a list of medical conditions for which hospitalisations are considered avoidable by high-quality primary health care and socioeconomic characteristics of the population. At the same time, the role of health care supply in mediating this relationship is analysed while controlling for demographic characteristics. To do so a panel data set of hospitalisations in Austria on the level of the political districts is exploited. Different econometric models that take spatial dependencies between the districts into account, such as spatial error, spatial autoregressive and spatial durbin (error) models, are estimated and tested.

HEP researchers involved:

Anna-Theresa Renner

Hospital closures, travel time and emergency admissions in Italy

In this study, we want to analyse the impact of hospital closures on geographic access and health outcomes of the Italian population. In a first step, we will look at all hospital closures from 2010 to 2016, and see how they affected the hypothetical travel time by care (TT) of citizens to their nearest (acute) hospital. In particular, we will look at the population-weighted average of the shortest TT from each comune to an acute hospital. Furthermore, we will compare the change over time in the number of selected emergency admissions (AMI and stroke) from districts with and without a hospital closure (using difference-in-difference estimations). This enables us to elicit whether impaired accessibility led to less patients accessing necessary hospital care.

To examine whether increased TT due to closures led to adverse health outcomes, we will look at the in-hospital mortality and readmission rates of patients admitted for acute myocardial infarction and stroke. In order to get unbiased results we will need to control for comorbidity and death during transportation to the hospital or at home. For the former, we will utilize hospitalisations of the sampled patients during previous years to build a comorbidity index or the secondary diagnoses. For the latter, we will need to revert to causes-of-death registry data on the regional level (ISTAT).

HEP researchers involved:

Anna-Theresa Renner and Simone Ghislandi (former member)

Patient mobility and provider quality: the case of elective hip replacement surgery in the Italian NHS

In the Italian National Health Service patients have free provider choice when it comes to hospital care. This means that some of the local health authorities (LHA) are “exporters” of care as they treat patients outside of their own LHA, whereas others are “importers” as their citizens travel to get care outside of their own LHA. In general, regions have an incentive to increase inflows as they are paid for each external patient on a pay-per-case basis. In general, southern Italian regions are importers, whereas northern regions are exporters of inpatient care. While this might increase efficiency for some specialised treatments, it raises concern of reduced equity of access and financial sustainability in the South. Since, especially for elective treatments such as hip replacements, patients can carefully select the provider, it is highly relevant

to know how patients form their decision to bypass their closest provider(s) and incur the private costs of travelling. We therefore exploit a patient-level dataset on all hip replacement procedures in Italian hospitals performed on the elderly population (65+) from 2010 to 2015. In particular we are interested whether, all else equal, patients take into account hospital specific quality indicators related or unrelated to hip replacements, or whether they are primarily reacting to information from their closer (regional) network. The theoretical framework of our study builds upon the theory of decision heuristics from behavioural economics, namely the availability heuristic and the “law of small numbers”.

HEP researchers involved:

Anna-Theresa Renner and Simone Ghislandi (former member)

3.3 Invited Speakers

The group is active in building and maintaining an international network. In 2019 we were able to welcome a special guest to our unit to give an exciting presentation.

- Prof. Simone Ghislandi, DPhil., October 2019

3.4 Collaboration with external partners

Prof. Marcel Bilger, PhD

- Prof. Eric Finkelstein (Duke-NUS, Singapore)
- Prof. David Matchar (Duke-NUS, Singapore)
- Dr. Wan Chen Kang (Agency for Integrated Care, Singapore)
- Dr. Stephen Hoskins (Singapore Management University, Singapore)
- Dr. Thomas Czypionka (Institute for Advanced Studies, Austria)
- Prof. Herwig Ostermann (Gesundheit Österreich GmbH, Austria)
- Dr. Timo Fischer (Hauptverband der österreichischen Sozialversicherungsträger, Austria)

Mag. Anna-Theresa Renner, MSc.

- Aleksandra Torbica, Nirosha Varghese, Yuxi Wang und Simone Ghislandi (Bocconi University)
- Dieter Pennerstorfer (JKU)
- Roman Hofmann, Erich Striessnig und Raya Muttarak (VID)

Dr. Daniela Weber

- Prof. Robert Zniva (FH Salzburg)
- Karen Umansky (Tel Aviv University)
- Dr. Elke Loichinger (Federal Institute for Population Research, Wiesbaden)
- Prof. Agneta Herlitz (Karolinska Institutet, Stockholm)
- Jeofrey Abalos, PhD (Australian National University)

4. Additional Scientific Activities

4.1 Conferences/Research Visits

The group is active in building and maintaining an international network. Conferences, workshops and seminars attended in 2019:

Prof. Marcel Bilger, PhD

- American-European Health Economics Study Group, Vienna, Austria, July
- 17th International Conference on Pension, Insurance and Savings, Paris, France, May, (Title of talk: "Demand for long-term care insurance in Singapore: results from randomised controlled discrete choice experiments")
- 12th World Congress on Health Economics, Basel, Switzerland, July, (Title of talk: "Demand for long-term care insurance in Singapore: results from randomised controlled discrete choice experiments")
- Vienna Health Care Lectures in Vienna, Austria, September, Vienna

Mag. Anna-Theresa Renner, MSc.

- Winterseminar organized by the German speaking section (GfR) of the European Regional Science Association (ERSA), Matrei, February
- ATHEA-Conference for Health Economics in Vienna, Austria, March
- Research Visit, Bocconi University, Centre for Research of Health and Social Care Management (CERGAS), Milan, Italy, April – June, funded by High Potential Contact Weeks (WU)
- American-European Health Economics Study Group, Vienna, Austria, July
- Conference of the European Regional Science Association (ERSA), Lyon, France, August
- Research Visit, Bocconi University, Centre for Research of Health and Social Care Management (CERGAS), Milan, Italy, September – October
- Fourth Dondena Workshop on Public Policy, Bocconi University, Milan, Italy, December

Dr. Mujaheed Shaikh

- ATHEA-Conference for Health Economics in Vienna, Austria, March
- University of Bern Econ Lunch 2019, Bern, Switzerland, March, (Title of talk: "Too sticky to switch? Lessons learned from health plan choices of the elderly")
- American-European Health Economics Study Group, Vienna, Austria, July

Dr. Daniela Weber

- ATHEA-Conference for Health Economics in Vienna, Austria, March
- Wiener Gesundheitsziele, Vienna, Austria, April (Title of talk „Die Wahrheit? Unterschiede zwischen subjektiven und objektiven Gesundheitsindikatoren“)
- American-European Health Economics Study Group, Vienna, Austria, July
- Vienna Health Care Lectures in Vienna, Austria, September, Chair of a World Café table discussion
- International Workshop on the Socio-Economics of Ageing in Lisbon, October, (Title of Talk "Reporting biases in self-assessed physical and cognitive health status of older Europeans")
- 19. Deutsch-Österreichisch-Schweizerisches Demographietreffen, Vienna, Austria, October, (Title of talk: „Langzeiteffekte physischer Gesundheitsschocks auf kognitive Fähigkeiten“)
- Demographic aspects of human wellbeing, Vienna, Austria, November, (Title of talk: "Health misperception and health care utilisation of older Europeans")
- Research Visit, Karolinska Institutet, Department of Clinical Neuroscience, Stockholm, Sweden, December

4.2 Reviews

Prof. Marcel Bilger, PhD

- Value in Health (2 manuscripts)

Mag. Anna-Theresa Renner, MSc.

- International Journal of Health Services
- Zeitschrift für Evidenz
- Fortbildung und Qualität im Gesundheitswesen

Dr. Daniela Weber

- Age and Ageing
- Plos One
- Journal of Population Research