Karna Malaviya

UC San Diego Economics Department kmalaviya@ucsd.edu +1 (703)-300-7612 Last Updated: November 4, 2025

EDUCATION

PhD Candidate, Economics, University of California - San Diego

2021–2026 (Anticipated)

- Fields: Public Economics, Health Economics, Labor Economics
- Placement Director: Prashant Bharadwaj (email: econ-jobmarket@ucsd.edu)

BA with Distinction, Economics (Mathematics Minor), Cornell University

2014-2018

- summa cum laude
- Thesis: "Scoring the Scorecard: The Effect of the College Scorecard on Postsecondary Enrollment"
 Advisor: Michael Lovenheim

REFERENCES

Professor Itzik Fadlon (Chair) fadlon@ucsd.edu

Professor Jeff Clemens jeffclemens@ucsd.edu Professor Julie Cullen jbcullen@ucsd.edu

RESEARCH

The Propagation of FDA Regulatory Enforcement Through Drug Supply Chains (Job Market Paper)

The Food and Drug Administration (FDA) upholds the safety of US drug supply, but persistent shortages and concentration in manufacturing have raised concerns that the agency's regulatory enforcement actions may disrupt access to essential medicines. I study this trade-off between access and safety by estimating the causal effects of FDA enforcement at upstream drug manufacturing facilities on downstream hospitals and the patients they serve. Linking Medicare claims to newly assembled data on the origin facilities of sterile injectable opioid drugs, I find that enforcement causes substantial production disruptions, reducing volume from the implicated facility by one-third. Yet, responses by other elements of the supply chain provide resilience: hospitals draw on multi-sourced procurement networks to rapidly substitute to alternative suppliers, such that more-exposed hospitals experience no detectable declines in drug supply relative to less-exposed hospitals. Even in high-risk conditions under which supply does decline—among rural hospitals and when enforcement occurs during critical shortages—the disruption does not compromise patient health or quality of care. These findings suggest that, despite concerns about fragility in this setting, FDA enforcement in concentrated supply chains shields patients from drugs produced at non-compliant facilities while maintaining access and quality of care.

How does Outsourcing affect Access and Quality of Care in Hospitals? Evidence from Compounded Sterile Injectable Drugs

Telehealth Emergency Department Transition-of-Care Program: A Value-based Innovation (*Published in Western Journal of Emergency Medicine*)

with: Allyson Kreshak, Itzik Fadlon, Vaishal Tolia, Lindsey Pierce, Parag Agnihotri, Brian Kwan, Eric Williamson, Jeffrey Mueller, Ming Tai-Seale

The Correlates of Pandemic Learning Loss: Results for a Student-Level Analysis of California

with: Julian Betts, Anjali Pai, Laura Hill, Jonathan Isler, Julien Lafortune, Thomas Pearson, Dinar Polichar, Emmanuel Prunty, Andrew Zau, Niu Gao

RELEVANT POSITIONS HELD

Graduate Student Researcher, Itzik Fadlon Graduate Student Researcher, Julian Betts 2023-2024

2023

Honors, Grants, & Awards

Economics Department TA Excellence Award	2024, 2025
Yankelovich Center Graduate Research Grant	2025
Economics Department Research Grant	2024, 2025
Summer Graduate Research Fellowship	2022, 2023, 2024
Regents Fellowship, UCSD	2021
Uri M. Possen Memorial Award, Best Undergraduate Economics Thesis (Cornell)	2018
Phi Beta Kappa, Junior Inductee, Top 3% in College (Cornell)	2017
Omicron Delta Epsilon (Cornell)	2017
Pauline and Irving Tanner Dean's Scholar (Cornell)	2014-2018

TEACHING EXPERIENCE

Teaching Assistant, University of California - San Diego Economics Department

- ECON 100A Intermediate Microeconomics (x6)
- ECON 120A Intermediate Econometrics
- ECON 5 Data Analytics
- ECON 147 Economics of Education

Professional Experience

Senior Research Analyst, The Brattle Group	2018-2021
Research Intern, The Hamilton Project at The Brookings Institution	2017
Research Intern, Council of Economic Advisers, Executive Office of the President	2016

OTHER

Programming: Stata, R, Python, SQL, LATEX

Languages: English (native), French (advanced), Italian (intermediate)

Citizenship: United States

Interests: running, photography, cooking, Milwaukee Bucks basketball, Duolingo