

Health Economics and Public Health

Basel Center for Health Economics

Stefan Felder, FWW

Günther Fink, SwissTPH

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Three Faculties – One Mission

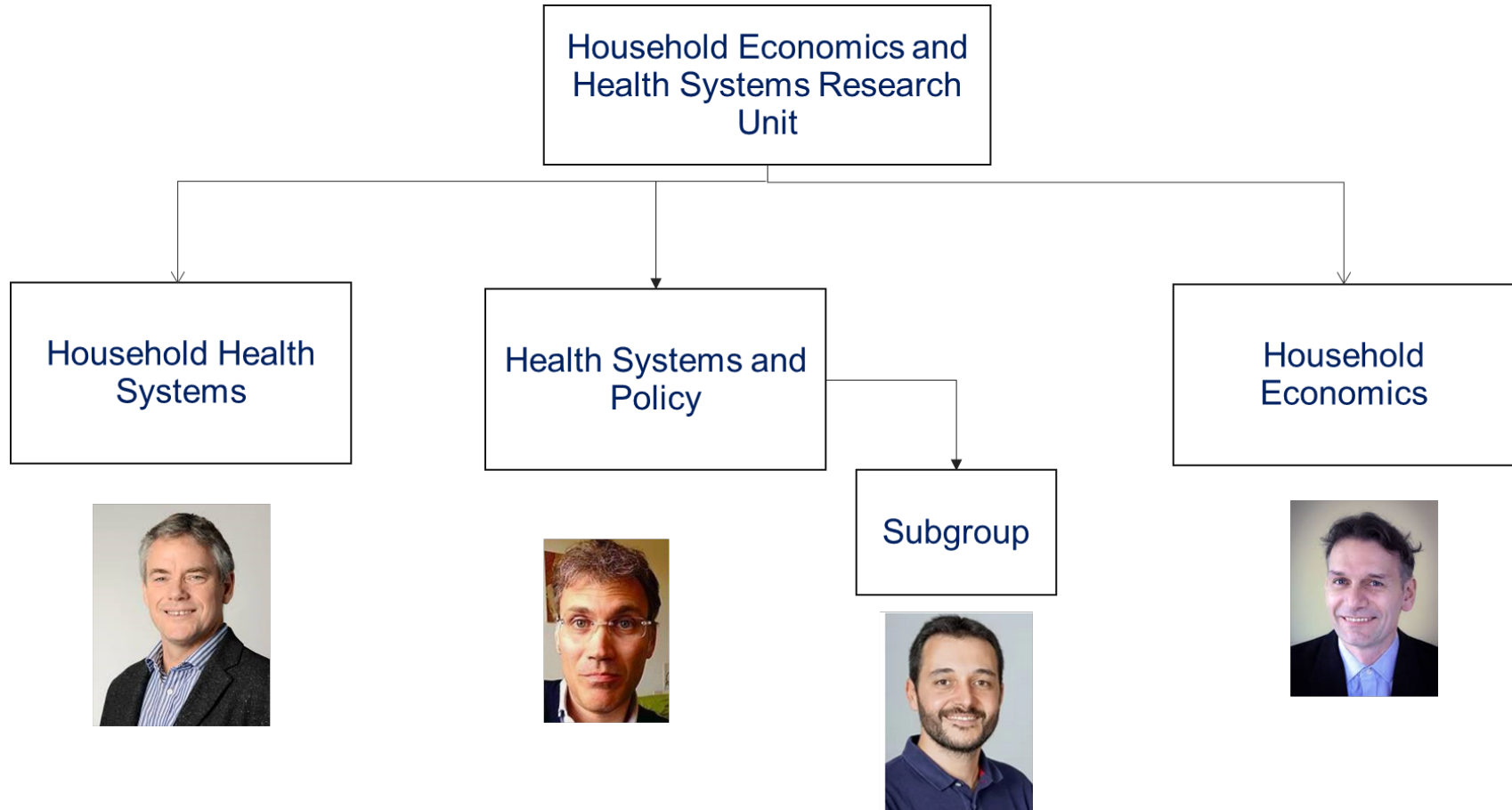
- Initiative launched in 2021 to combine forces across the University of Basel in health economics.
- The main faculties involved are
 1. Faculty of Economics
(Armando Meier, Stefan Felder)
 2. Faculty of Medicine, DPH
(Matthias Schwenkglenks)
 3. Faculty of Science, Swiss TPH
(Günther Fink, Fabrizio Tediosi)



Three Faculties – One Mission

- Contribute to the solution of current and future questions in health care
- Offer a multifaceted perspective on relevant health policy problems, combining expertise across the Faculties of Economics, Science and Medicine at the University of Basel
- Offer new opportunities for researchers to exchange ideas (seminar series)
- Offer new training opportunities (major or separate master's in HE)

➔ Official launch on Sep 13, 2023!



1. Strengthen health and social systems functioning through economic, social science and behavioral research
2. Create novel behavioral- and social science based interventions to improve health service quality, health service utilization and health outcomes in high and low-income countries
3. Measure the impact of health on economic outcomes and create the data and evidence allowing policy makers to identify the most effective health policies

1. **Impact assessments**: we use state-of-the-art econometric models as well as randomized controlled trials to assess impacts of targeted interventions
2. **Cost-effectiveness** assessments: we use carefully designed modeling frameworks to assess the relative and incremental cost-effectiveness of government policies
3. **Equity assessments**: we assess the relative impact of policies and interventions across population groups, with a particular focus on the most vulnerable population
4. **Welfare analysis**: we assess impact of policies not only on health outcomes, but also on the economic and subjective wellbeing of household

- 66 publications in the unit in 2021, 36 in 2022 so far

These publications include

- 1 paper in New England Journal of Medicine
- 1 paper in The Lancet
- 1 paper in Nature Communications
- 1 paper in Lancet Infectious Diseases
- 1 paper in PNAS
- 2 papers in PLOS Medicine
- 1 paper in Science Advances
- 3 papers in top econ journals: JPE, HE, JHE



Health Economics Facility

The **HEF** is an integrated part of the Faculty of Medicine's research infrastructure. While running research projects with a health economic focus, the **HEF** will also function as a resource for research teams in all departments of the Faculty of Medicine and provide health economic expertise for ongoing or planned projects.

Current methodological expertise includes:

- › Health economic evaluations alongside clinical trials & literature based (cost-minimization, cost-effectiveness, cost-utility analysis)
- › Budget Impact Analysis (BIA)
- › Health Technology Assessment (HTA)
- › Health services and outcomes research
- › Analysis of health insurance claims data and Real World Data (RWD)
- › Systematic reviews and meta-analyses
- › Applied behavioural economics

Educational programs in health economics will be developed in the context of the **BCHE**.

<https://dph.medizin.unibas.ch/health-economics-facility/>



Head of the HEF:
Prof. Matthias Schwenkglens, PhD, MPH



Matthias Schwenkglens has been Head of Research of the Institute of Pharmaceutical Medicine (ECPM) at the DPH since 2003. The Department appointed him Research Group Leader in 2021. Details are available [here](#).

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‘Traditional’, well established

- Health economic evaluations alongside clinical trials & literature based (cost-minimization, cost-effectiveness, cost-utility analysis)
- Budget Impact Analysis (BIA)
- Health Technology Assessment (HTA)

To be strengthened in the future

- Health services and outcomes research (current activities MS at UZH)
- Analysis of health insurance claims data and Real World Data (RWD) – long-standing experience, develop focus on causal inference techniques
- Health economics in implementation science projects – current activities at INS
- Applied behavioral economics – competency available in the team

HEF: Swiss-AF Cohort Study (SNF)

Health economic aspects of atrial fibrillation: analyses based on the Swiss-AF cohort study

Atrial fibrillation (AF) is a common and serious arrhythmia of the heart, associated with increased morbidity and mortality from related conditions such as heart failure and stroke. The Swiss-AF cohort study is an ongoing, prospective, multicentre, observational study of 2,415 Swiss-AF patients that was funded by the Swiss National Science Foundation. In addition to rich demographic and clinical data, Swiss-AF collects health economic information.

The analysis of these data will allow us to better understand the economic and societal impact of atrial fibrillation. In particular, we are examining the real-life cost-benefit relationship and budget impact of clinical management options such as stroke prophylaxis with direct-acting oral anticoagulants versus vitamin K antagonists, and pulmonary vein isolation/catheter ablation in comparison with no or drug treatment. We are also studying the healthcare system-level and societal impact of atrial fibrillation in terms of amount, patterns and drivers of medical resource use and costs, influence on productivity in younger patients, and changes in health-related quality of life over time. Advanced methods will be applied to address threats to validity, e.g. due to the possible existence of unobserved confounders. The research will inform clinical and reimbursement decision-making, and healthcare planning in Switzerland. In addition, we expect refinements of methodological approaches to the economic analysis of real-world, longitudinal data for chronic disease patients, with relevance for research in other countries.



For further information please visit the [project page](#).

Team

Matthias Schwenkglenks (Project Lead)

Helena Aebersold

Fabienne Foster

Colleagues at University Hospital Basel
and University of Basel

Funding

Swiss National Science Foundation
(Project 105318_189195)

Links

Swiss-AF main project:

http://www.swissaf.ch/index_de_.htm

- Behavioral Health Economics

Recent Publications:

Financial Incentives for Vaccination do not have negative unintended consequences, *Nature* 2023

Emotions and risk attitudes, *Am. Eco J: Applied Economics*, 2022

Monetary incentives increase COVID-19 vaccinations, *Science*, 2021

Prosociality predicts health behaviors during the COVID-19 pandemic, *J Pub Eco*, 2021



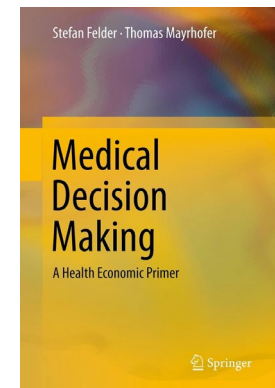
- Health Economics

Projects

Incentivizing medical decision making of physicians with unknown altruism

VBHC in hip joint replacement

Post-mortem vs living organ donations: The role of the default donation regime



Inaugural Event BCHE

Wednesday, September 13, 2023 | 13.30 h - 19:00 h
Aula Kollegienhaus, Universität Basel

The new Basel Center for Health Economics (BCHE) aims to harness the vast economic, public health, and life science resources in North Western Switzerland to become a leading center in health economics. Led by Stefan Felder (Faculty of Economics), Günther Fink (Faculty of Economics, Swiss TPH) and Matthias Schwenkglenks (Faculty of Medicine), the BCHE will serve as a local and international networking hub, fostering connections between research, industry leaders, and policy makers. By facilitating collaborations and knowledge exchange, the BCHE will drive innovation and address the most pressing challenges faced by the health sector. Through its research and training programs, the BCHE will actively seek to further build capacity, to contribute to improved healthcare outcomes, and to support the future design of health systems.

Program

13:30

Welcome

Prof. Dr. Torsten Schwede, Vice President for Research, University of Basel
Dr. Lukas Engelberger, Minister of Health, Canton of Basel-Stadt

14:00

BCHE: Three Units, One Vision

Stefan Felder: Economics Meets Medicine
Günther Fink: Why Should We Invest in Health?
Matthias Schwenkglenks: Establishing Value-for-Money of Health Interventions

14:45

Coffee Break



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basel center for health economics

15:15 **Keynotes, Panel Discussions**

Panel 1: Hat die DRG-Finanzierung ausgedient?

Keynote: Jonas Schreyögg, Direktor Hamburg Center for Health Economics, Stellv. Vorsitzender Sachverständigenrat Gesundheit, Berlin

Christoph Kilchenmann, Stellv. Direktor Santésuisse, Solothurn

Annamaria Müller, Verwaltungsratspräsidentin Hôpital de Fribourg, Präsidentin Schweizer Forum für Integrierte Versorgung (fmc)

Moderator: Stefan Felder

Panel 2: When Do We Have Enough Evidence for Disinvestment? Reflections on a Recent Malaria Treatment Evaluation

Presenters: Aita Signorell und Manuel Hetzel, SwissTPH

Discussants: Charlotte Adamczick, Aita Signorell, Manuel Hetzel

Moderator: Günther Fink

16:45 **Plenary Panel: Was kann die Wissenschaft zur Effizienz der Gesundheitssysteme beitragen?**

Jonas Schreyögg, Annamaria Müller, Christoph Kilchenmann, Matthias Schwenkglenks

Moderator: Marcel Tanner, Präsident der Akademien der Schweiz

18:00 **Apéro riche**

Inaugural Event BCHE

Please register via www.bche.ch

Thank you!