

Alden Cheng

Email: alden15@nber.org

Website: <https://aldencheng.com>

Updated: October 2024

Employment

National Bureau of Economic Research Postdoctoral Research Associate	2023-
Gies College of Business, University of Illinois Urbana-Champaign Gies Health Initiatives Research Scholar	2023-

Prior Education

Massachusetts Institute of Technology, Economics PhD, Economics	2017-2023
University of California, Berkeley BA, Applied Mathematics, Economics, Statistics <i>Highest Distinction in General Scholarship</i>	2012-2016

Publications

- Mixed Beam Murine Harderian Gland Tumorigenesis: Predicted Dose-Effect Relationships if neither Synergism nor Antagonism Occurs (with Nopphon Siranart, Eleanor A. Blakely, Naval Handa, and Rainer K. Sachs). *Radiation Research*, 2016.

Research Papers

- [Demand for Quality in the Presence of Information Frictions: Evidence from the Nursing Home Market](#) (Reject and Resubmit, AER)
- [Why Are Minorities Disproportionately Concentrated in Low-Quality Nursing Homes?](#)
- [Estimation of Regression Discontinuity and Kink Designs with Multiple Running Variables \[R Code\]](#)
- [Selection on Unobservables in Discrete Choice Models](#)

Research in Progress

- Peer Effects in the Workplace: Evidence from the Illinois Workplace Wellness Study (with Damon Jones, David Molitor, and Julian Reif)
- Does Your Roommate Matter for Your Health? Evidence from the Nursing Home Market (with Martin Hackmann)
- Challenges in Measuring Mental Health Trends

Past Work

- [Does Fake News Affect Voting Behavior? An Instrumental Variable Approach Using Big College Football Games](#)
- [Cigarette Consumption and Tax Salience](#)

Fellowships, Honors, and Awards

Sahin (1963) Presidential Fellowship, MIT	2017
Mark A. Schimbor Prize: Best Undergraduate Research in Economics, UC Berkeley	2016
Steve Goldman Memorial Prize: Highest Academic Achievement in Economics, UC Berkeley	2016
University Medal Finalist, UC Berkeley	2016
Percy Lionel Davis Award: Excellence in Scholarship in Mathematics, UC Berkeley	2016
Dean's Honors, UC Berkeley	2013-2015

Invited Presentations (scheduled*)**

Indiana University Bloomington, University of Illinois Urbana-Champaign, American Society of Health Economists, Midwest Health Economics Conference, University of Massachusetts Amherst*	2024
Seoul National University, Yonsei University, International Health Economics Association	2023

Professional Service

Referee: American Economic Review Insights, American Journal of Health Economics

Relevant Positions

Research Assistant to Professor Nikhil Agarwal	2018
Research Assistant to Professor Amy Finkelstein	2017
Research Assistant to Professor David Card	2016
Research Assistant to Professor Stefano DellaVigna	2016

Teaching

14.01 Principles of Microeconomics	2022
Teaching Assistant to Professor Sara Ellison	
14.01 Principles of Microeconomics	2020
Teaching Assistant to Professor Jonathan Gruber	
14.30 Introduction to Statistical Methods in Economics	2020
Teaching Assistant to Professor Alberto Abadie	