# Imputing the Social Value of Public Health care: a General Equilibrium Simulation of Israel

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***Abstract***

Countries with universal health care have experienced a rising demand for health care services without a corresponding rise in public supply. This has led to a debate on whether to increase private health care services - especially in hospitals and second-tier health care. Proponents for increasing private health care highlight gains in efficiency and innovation, while opponents emphasize its risk to social welfare. In this paper, we contribute to the debate by imputing the social value of public health care, using a general equilibrium model that simulates a hypothetical health care market. The model is calibrated to a Health Social Accounting Matrix of Israel. We estimate the minimum social value at around 26% of public health care financing.