

ZACK COOPER
YALE UNIVERSITY

Curriculum Vitae

87 Trumbull Street
New Haven, CT 06520

Updated: July, 2026

Education:

A.B. University of Chicago, 2005
MSc London School of Economics, 2006
Ph.D. London School of Economics, 2011

Career/Academic Appointments:

2024-Present Associate Professor, Department of Health Policy and Management, Yale School of Public Health (Primary Appointment); Department of Economics (Secondary Appointment), Yale University (tenured)
2018-2024 Associate Professor, Department of Health Policy and Management, Yale School of Public Health (Primary Appointment); Department of Economics (Secondary Appointment), Yale University (on term)
2012-2018 Assistant Professor, Department of Health Policy and Management, Yale School of Public Health (Primary Appointment); Department of Economics (Secondary Appointment), Yale University
2011-12 Postdoctoral Fellow in Economics, Centre for Economic Performance, London School of Economics

Additional Positions, Government Service, and Past Employment:

2026-Present Director, The Health Care Affordability Lab at Yale
2025-Present Director, Tobin-Cowles Health Economics Initiative at Yale
2020-2021 Connecticut Healthcare Cost Growth Benchmark Technical Team
2019-Present National Bureau of Economics Research
2019-2024: Faculty Research Fellow
2024 – Present: Research Associate
2019-Present Associate Director, Tobin Center for Economic Policy, Yale University
2019-Present Director of Health Policy, Tobin Center for Economic Policy, Yale University
2014-2020 Charter Faculty, Jackson Institute for Global Affairs, Yale University
2012-2021 Director of Health Policy, Institution for Social and Policy Studies, Yale University
2012-Present Faculty Associate, Centre for Economic Performance, London School of Economics
2008 Special Assistant, UK Department of Health

Professional Honors & Fellowships

2024 American Antitrust Institute Jerry S. Cohen Memorial Fund Award for Best Antitrust Publication in Health Care
2021 NIHCM Foundation Research Award for Best Paper
2020 Yale School of Public Health Investigator Research Award
2019 Andrew Carnegie Fellow
2019 NIHCM Foundation Research Award for Best Paper
2016 Visiting Fellow, Hoover Institution, Stanford University

2011	Richard Titmuss Prize for Best PhD Thesis (LSE)
2011	Economic and Social Science Research Council Postdoctoral Fellowship
2007	Morris Finer Memorial PhD Fellowship
2007	London School of Economics Post Graduate Studentship
2005	Graduate with Honors, the University of Chicago
2002-2005	Dean's List, the University of Chicago

Bibliography

Working Papers (Authorship is Alphabetical)

1. Cooper, Z, Craig SV, Epanomeritakis A, Grennan M, Martinez JR, Scott Morton F, Swanson AT. Are Hospital Acquisitions of Physician Practices Anticompetitive? NBER Working Paper No. 34039, 2025. Reject & Resubmit, Quarterly Journal of Economics.
2. Cooper Z, Doyle JJ, Graves JA, Gruber J. Do higher-priced hospitals deliver higher-quality care? NBER Working Paper No. 28909, 2022. Reject & Resubmit, Journal of Political Economy. NBER Working Paper No. 29809. DOI 10.3386/w29809

Peer-Reviewed Economics Research (Authorship is Alphabetical)

3. Brot-Goldberg Z, Cooper Z, Craig SV, Klarner L, Lurie I, Miller C. Who pays for rising health care prices? Evidence from hospital mergers. Conditionally Accepted, American Economic Review. 2026. DOI 10.3386/w32613. (NBER Working Paper No. 32613)
4. Brot-Goldberg Z, Cooper Z, Craig SV, Klarner L. Is there too little antitrust enforcement in the US Hospital Sector? American Economic Review: Insights. 2024; 6(4): 526-42. DOI: 10.1257/aeri.20230340.
5. Cooper Z, Kowalski AE, Powell EN, Wu J. Politics and health care spending in the United States: evidence from the passage of the 2003 Medicare Modernization Act. Journal of Health Economics. 2024; 95(3): 102878. <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.jhealeco.2024.102878>
6. Chernew M, Cooper Z, Larsen Hallock E, Scott Morton F. Physician agency, consumerism, and the consumption of lower-limb MRI scans. Journal of Health Economics. 2021;76(C):40-58. PMID: [33581664](https://pubmed.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/33581664/), DOI: [10.1016/j.jhealeco.2021.102427](https://doi.org/10.1016/j.jhealeco.2021.102427).
7. Cooper Z, Scott Morton F, Shekita N. Surprise! out-of-network billing for emergency care in the United States. Journal of Political Economy. 2020;128(9):3626-3667. DOI: [10.1086/708819A](https://doi.org/10.1086/708819A).
8. Cooper Z, Craig S, Gaynor M, Van Reenen J. The price ain't right? hospital prices and health spending on the privately insured. The Quarterly Journal of Economics. 2018;134(1):51-107. PMID: [32981974](https://pubmed.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/32981974/), PMCID: [PMC7517591](https://pubmed.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pmc/articles/PMC7517591/), DOI: [10.1093/qje/qjy020](https://doi.org/10.1093/qje/qjy020).
9. Cooper Z, Gibbons S, Skellern M. Does competition from private surgical centers improve hospitals' performance? evidence from the English National Health Service. Journal of Public Economics. 2018;166:63-80. DOI: [10.1016/j.jpubeco.2018.08.002](https://doi.org/10.1016/j.jpubeco.2018.08.002).
10. Cooper Z, Gibbons S, Jones S, McGuire A. Does hospital competition save lives? evidence from the English NHS patient choice reforms. The Economic Journal. 2011;121(554):228-260. PMID: [25821239](https://pubmed.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/25821239/), PMCID: [PMC4373154](https://pubmed.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pmc/articles/PMC4373154/), DOI: [10.1111/j.1468-0297.2011.02449.x](https://doi.org/10.1111/j.1468-0297.2011.02449.x).

Peer-Reviewed Medical and Health Policy Research

11. **Cooper Z**, Craig S. Growth in health care spending explains 91% of the growth in insurance premiums from 2011 to 2024. JAMA Health Forum. Forthcoming.

12. **Cooper Z**, Stiegman O, Ndumele C, Staiger B, Skinner J. Geographical variation in health spending across the US among privately insured individuals and enrollees in Medicaid and Medicare. JAMA Open. 2022;5(7):1-11. PMID: [35857326](#), PMCID: [PMC9301520](#), DOI: [10.1001/jamanetworkopen.2022.22138](#).
13. **Cooper Z**, Han J, Mahoney N. Hospital lawsuits over unpaid bills increased by 37% in Wisconsin from 2001 to 2018. Health Affairs. 2021;40(12):1830-1835. DOI: [10.1377/hlthaff.2021.01130](#).
14. **Cooper Z**, Nguyen H, Shekita N, Scott Morton F. Out-of-network billing and negotiated payments for hospital-based physicians. Health Affairs. 2019;39(1):24-32. PMID: [31841351](#), DOI: [10.1377/hlthaff.2019.00507](#).
15. **Cooper Z**, Craig S, Gaynor M, Harish N, Krumholz H, Van Reenen J. Hospital prices grew substantially faster than physician prices from 2007 to 2014. Health Affairs. 2019;38(2):184-189. PMID: [30715987](#), DOI: [10.1377/hlthaff.2018.05424](#).
16. **Cooper Z**, Craig S, Gray C, Gaynor M, Van Reenan J. Variation in health spending growth for the privately insured from 2007 to 2014. Health Affairs. 2019;38(2):230-236. PMID: [30715989](#), DOI: [10.1377/hlthaff.2018.05245](#).
17. **Cooper Z**, Scott Morton F. Out-of-network emergency-physician bills: an unwelcome surprise. New England Journal of Medicine. 2016;375(20):1915-1918. PMID: [27959612](#), DOI: [10.1056/NEJMp1608571](#).
18. Murugian K, Wang, Y, Dodson JA, Nuti S, Dharmarajan K, Ranasinghe I, **Cooper Z**, Krumholz HM. Trend in hospitalizations among Medicare survivors of Aortic valve replacement in United States, 1990-2010. Annals of Thoracic Surgery. 2015; 99: 509-517. PMID: [2557425](#), PMCID: [PMC4454375](#). DOI: [10.1016/j.athorasur.2014.08.045](#).
19. Dodson JA, Wang Y, Murugiah K, Dharmajan K, **Cooper Z**, Hashim S, Nuti SV, Spatz E, Desai H, Krumholz H. National trends in hospital readmissions rates among Medicare fee-for-service survivors of mitral valve surgery, 1999-2010. PLoS One. 2015; 10: 132-40. PMID: [26147225](#), PMCID: [PMC4493110](#), DOI: [https://doi.org/10.1371/journal.pone.0132470](#).
20. **Cooper Z**, McGuire A, Jones S, Le Grand J. Equity, waiting times, and NHS reforms. British Medical Journal. 2009;339:3264-3271. PMID: [19729415](#), PMCID: [PMC2737605](#), DOI: [10.1136/bmj.b3264](#).

Non-Peer-Reviewed Articles and Commentaries (Authorship is Alphabetical)

21. Charlesworth A, Cooper Z. Making competition work in the English NHS: The case for maintaining regulated prices. Journal of Health Services Research and Policy. 2011;16(4):193-194. PMID: [21890682](#), DOI: [10.1258/jhsrp.2011.011038](#).
22. Bloom N, Cooper Z, Gaynor M, Gibbons S, Jones S, McGuire A, Moreno-Serra R, Propper C, Van Van Reenen J, Seiler S. In defense of our research on competition in England National Health Service. The Lancet. 2011;378(9089):2064-2065. DOI: [10.1016/S0140-6736\(11\)61708-X](#).
23. Le Grand J, Cooper Z. Framing health reform. Health Economics, Policy and Law. 2013;8(2):251-257. DOI: [10.1017/S1744133113000078](#).
24. Cooper Z, Scott Morton F. Authors reply: Facts matter. New England Journal of Medicine. 2017;376(9):899-900. DOI: [10.1056/NEJMc1700368](#).
25. Cooper Z, Scott Morton F. 1% steps for health care reform: Implications for health care policy and for researchers. Health Services Research. 2021;56(3):346-349. 1. DOI: [10.1111/1475-6773.13658](#).

Invited Academic Presentations

2026: Northeastern
2025: London School of Economics; Carnegie Mellon University, University of Illinois, University of Pennsylvania.
2024: Stanford University, Cornell University, London School of Economics, Harvard University
2023: National Academy of Science, National Bureau of Economics Research Summer Institute, American Society of Health Economics, Columbia University Non-Market Effects of Market Power Conference, American Health Economics Conference, University of Chicago
2022: University of Copenhagen, ITAM Business School, Mexico City, The Ohio State University, Stanford University, University of Pennsylvania, Princeton University, UCLA
2021: American Economic Association Annual Meeting
2020: Columbia University, Memorial Sloan Kettering
2019: Boston University, Johns Hopkins University, Princeton University
2018: Dartmouth College, Harvard University
2017: University of Utah Business Economics Conference, University of British Columbia, Northwestern University, National Bureau of Economics Research Summer Institute, Harvard University
2016: BU/Harvard/MIT Health Seminar, American Economic Association, Mt. Sinai School of Medicine, University of Chicago Booth School of Business, University of Chicago Harris School of Public Policy, National Bureau of Economics Research, American Society of Health Economics, the Brookings Institution
2015: Dartmouth College, Stanford University, National Bureau of Economic Research, Northwestern Health Markets Conference
2014: London School of Economics, University of York, American Society of Health Economics, Academy Health, American Economic Association Annual Meeting

Public Testimony and Presentations

1. Testimony before the Texas House of Representatives Select Committee on Health Care Affordability, Public hearing held on April 30, 2026.
2. “Fighting Obamacare Subsidy Fraud: Is the Administrative Procedure Act Working as Intended” Testimony before the US House Judiciary Committee, 2025.
3. “Hospital Prices, Health Spending, and the American Dream.” Testimony before the Vermont State Legislature, 2025.
4. “Hospital Pricing and Health Spending in the US,” Oregon Health Policy Board, 2024.
5. “Consolidation and Corporate Ownership in Health Care: Trends and Impacts on Access, Quality, and Costs,” United State Senate, Committee on Finance, Washington, DC, 2023.
6. “Hospital Pricing and Health Spending in the US,” Vermont Green Mountain Care Board, Burlington, VT, 2023.
7. “1% Steps for Health Care Reform,” US Department of Defense, Washington, D.C., 2021.
8. “Provider Prices and Health Care Spending,” Testimony before the Massachusetts State Legislature, Boston, MA, 2020.
9. “Surprise! Out-of-Network Billing for Emergency Care in the United States,” the White House, Washington, D.C., 2019.
10. “Provider Prices and Health Spending,” Connecticut Health Care Cabinet, Hartford, CT, 2016.
11. “The Price Ain’t Right? Hospital Prices and Health Spending in the United States,” Council of Economic Advisors, the White House, Washington, D.C., 2016.
12. “The Price Ain’t Right? Hospital Prices and Health Spending in the United States,” Congressional Budget Office, Washington, D.C., 2016.
13. “The Price Ain’t Right? Hospital Prices and Health Spending in the United States,” Medicare Payment Advisory Committee, Washington, D.C., 2016.
14. “The Price Ain’t Right? Hospital Prices and Health Spending in the United States,” Federal Trade Commission, Washington, D.C., 2016.
15. “The Price Ain’t Right? Hospital Prices and Health Spending in the United States,” Department of Justice, Washington, D.C., 2016.

16. “The Price Ain’t Right? Hospital Prices and Health Spending in the United States,” US Census Bureau of Economic Analysis, Washington, D.C., 2016.

Selected Media Coverage and Appearances

The New York Times, the Washington Post, the Wall Street Journal, the Financial Times, the New Yorker, the Economist, USA Today, the Boston Post, the LA Times, the Sun Herald, the Baltimore Sun, the Denver Post, the Milwaukee Journal Sentinel, Politico, NPR, the New Republic, Axios, CBS, NBC, Fox, CNN, Yahoo Finance, Kaiser Health News, MarketWatch, the Daily Mail, CT Mirror, Hartford Courant, Bloomberg, Crain’s, Business Insider, Forbes, Foreign Affairs, Becker’s Hospital Review, Modern Healthcare, the Hill, Vox, Tradeoffs, Freakonomics, Marketplace, C-Span, and ProPublica

Professional Service

Reviewer

2008-present: *American Economic Journal: Applied Microeconomics*; *American Economic Journal: Economic Policy*; *American Economic Review*; *AER Insights*; *American Journal of Health Economics*; *British Medical Journal*; *Econometrica*; *Economic Letters*; *Health Affairs*; *Health Economics*; *Health Economics, Policy and Law*; *Health Policy*; *Journal of Health Economics*; *Journal of Health Management Review*; *Journal of Health Services Research and Policy*; *Journal of Industrial Economics*; *Journal of Political Economy*; *Journal of Public Economics*; *Journal of the Royal Statistical Society*; *Journal of Social Policy*; *Journal of Urban Economics*; *Lancet*; *New England Journal of Medicine*; *Social Science and Medicine*; *Quarterly Journal of Economics*.

Classes Taught:

2014 – 2018: Microeconomics for Policy-Makers (with James Levinsohn)
2012/13 – Present: Health Economics and US Health Care Policy

Grants

Current Grants*

Agency: Arnold Ventures LLC
ID#: AWD0014058 (25-14333)
Title: Analyzing and Visualizing the Evolution of Health Care Provider Markets
PI: Zack Cooper, PhD
Total costs: \$3,000,000
Project period: 06/01/2025 – 11/30/2027

Agency: Peterson Center on Healthcare, LLC
ID#: AWD0014230 (26041)
Title: Translating Evidence into Action to Improve the U.S. Health System
PI: Zack Cooper, PhD
Total costs: \$2,208,000
Project period: 06/01/2025-05/31/2028

Agency: Gates Ventures, LLC
ID#: AWD0014900
Title: Translating Evidence into Action to Improve the U.S. Health System
PI: Zack Cooper, PhD
Total costs: \$2,207,982
Project period: 06/01/2025-05/31/2028

Past Grants

Agency: Economic and Social Science Research Council
Title: Patient Choice, Hospital Competition and Health Care Quality: Evidence from the English National Health Service
PI: Zack Cooper, PhD
Percent effort: N/A
Total costs: \$270,000
Project period: 01/28/2011 – 06/12/2012

Agency: Commonwealth Fund
ID#: AWDR12651 (20150031)
Title: Tracking Private and Medicare Costs by Clinical Condition
PI: Zack Cooper, PhD
Total costs: \$156,181
Project period: 09/01/2014 – 10/31/2017

Agency: Commonwealth Fund
ID#: AWDR12829 (20150184)
Title: Understanding Pricing Dynamics in US Health Care
PI: Zack Cooper, PhD
Percent effort: 25%
Total costs: \$384,845
Project period: 12/01/2014 – 8/31/2017

Agency: National Institute for Health Care Management
ID#: NIHCM Study / R12779
Title: Do Higher Priced Providers Deliver Higher Quality Care? An Analysis of the Price/Quality Relationship Using HCCI Data
PI: Zack Cooper, PhD
Total costs: \$68,656
Project period: 01/12/2015 – 01/11/2016

Agency: The Arnold Foundation
ID#: AWDR13329 (282430.5094247.0021)
Title: Testing the Effect of Price Transparency on Patient Behavior
PI: Zack Cooper, PhD
Total costs: \$109,660
Project period: 10/01/2015 – 09/30/2017

Agency: National Institute for Health Care Management
ID#: AWDR13819
Title: Analyzing the Frequency, Causes, and State Responses to Surprise Out-of-Network Billing
PI: Zack Cooper, PhD
Total costs: \$49,570
Project period: 09/01/2016 – 08/31/2017

Agency: National Institute for Health Care Management
ID#: AWDR14088
Title: Identifying the Scope of Shopping for Health Services and the Limits of Price Transparency

PI: Zack Cooper, PhD
Total costs: \$18,000
Project period: 01/01/2017 – 12/31/2017

Agency: Jameel Poverty Action Laboratory
ID#: AWD0000238 (38809-001)
Title: Do Informed Patients Make Better Choices?
PI: Zack Cooper, PhD
Total costs: \$49,821
Project period: 01/2/2017 – 6/30/2018

Agency: Jean-Jaques Laffont Foundation
ID#: AWDR14113
Title: Understanding How Patients Get Matched with Locations for Secondary Care
PI: Zack Cooper, PhD
Percent effort:
Total costs: \$20,000
Project period: 03/1/2017 – 01/20/2018

Agency: The Commonwealth Fund
ID#: AWD0000604 (20171051)
Title: Understanding How Vertical Integration Influences Physician Behavior
PI: Zack Cooper, PhD
Total costs: \$227,708
Project period: 09/01/2017 – 09/30/2022

Agency: Dartmouth College (National Institute on Aging/NIH/DHHS)
ID#: AWD0001688, AWD0004465, AWD0006081 (R1032)
Title: Causes and Consequences of Healthcare Efficiency
PI: Jonathan Skinner, PhD
Role on project: Co-principal investigator
Total costs: \$979,147
Project period: 05/01/2018 – 07/31/2023

Agency: The Laura and John Arnold Foundation
ID#: AWD0002092
Title: Out-of-Network Billing in the United States
PI: Zack Cooper, PhD
Total costs: \$119,735
Project period: 09/14/2018 – 08/31/2019

Agency: The Laura and John Arnold Foundation
ID#: AWD0001977
Title: The Pricing of Insulin in the United States
PI: Zack Cooper, PhD
Total costs: \$243,494
Project period: 09/14/2018 – 08/31/2020

Agency: The Laura and John Arnold Foundation
ID#: AWD0002359
Title: The 1 Percent Project
PI: Zack Cooper, PhD
Total costs: \$706,889
Project period: 11/30/2018 – 01/31/2021

Agency: The Laura and John Arnold Foundation
ID#: AWD0004840
Title: Key Competition Issues in Health Care Markets: Private Equity Ownership, Vertical Integration, and the Labor Market Effects of Hospital Consolidation
PI: Zack Cooper, PhD
Total costs: \$805,254
Project period: 07/01/2020 – 06/30/2022

Agency: The Laura and John Arnold Foundation
ID#: AWD0006817 (21-06077)
Title: Key Trends in Hospital Concentration and the Incidence of Hospitals Suing Patients
PI: Zack Cooper, PhD
Total costs: \$206,528
Project period: 08/01/2021 – 07/31/2022

Agency: The Laura and John Arnold Foundation
ID#: AWD0007993 (22-06958)
Title: Trends in PAD Spending and Reimbursements Among the Privately Insured
PI: Zack Cooper, PhD
Total costs: \$42,474
Project period: 07/01/2022 – 03/06/2023

Agency: National Institute for Health Care Management
ID#: AWD0002426
Title: Why Does the US Over-Invest in Technology? The Curious Case of MRI Scanners
PI: Zack Cooper, PhD
Total costs: \$88,607
Project period: 09/01/2018 – 12/31/2025

Agency: The Laura and John Arnold Foundation
ID#: AWD0007830 (22-07025)
Title: High Impact Scholarship on Health Markets, Insurance Premiums, Bad Actors in the Health Sector, and State-Level Interventions
PI: Zack Cooper, PhD
Total costs: \$2,750,000
Project period: 07/01/2022 – 04/30/2025

Agency: Washington Center for Equitable Growth
ID#: AWD0010215
Title: Tracking Hospital Mergers and Understanding Which Markets are Changing
PI: Zack Cooper, PhD
Total costs: \$55,000
Project period: 09/01/2023 – 08/31/2024