

# Sooa Ahn

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The Ohio State University  
389 Arps 1945 N. High St.  
Columbus, OH

## EDUCATION AND WORK EXPERIENCE

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### The Ohio State University

Ph.D. Candidate in Economics Expected May 2026  
M.A. in Economics May 2023

### Bank of Korea

Junior Economist 2013-2020

### Yonsei University

B.A. in Economics Feb 2013

## PROFESSIONAL AFFILIATIONS

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2024- Special Sworn Status Researcher, U.S. Census Bureau

## RESEARCH AREAS

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Health Economics , Public Economics, Labor Economics

## JOB MARKET PAPER

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“The Impact of Nurse Practitioner Autonomy on Patient Sorting and Health Outcomes”

States have expanded nurse practitioners’ (NPs) autonomy from physician oversight to increase access to care, but this raises concerns about health outcomes under independent practice. I study how patients sort between NPs and physicians as primary care providers when NPs gain full practice authority, using state-level changes in NP scope of practice and data from the Medical Expenditure Panel Survey. I find that when NPs can practice independently of physicians, patients with multiple chronic conditions visit NPs more than physicians, and diagnoses of common chronic diseases increase. However, self-reported health declines, and evidence suggests limited adherence to antibiotic prescribing guidelines by NPs. These results suggest that full NP practice authority enhances utilization of care among higher-risk patients and increases detection of chronic diseases, but improvements in overall health are limited.

*Accepted Conferences:* Association of Public Policy Analysis & Management Fall Research Conference Poster Session (scheduled), Seattle, WA; Annual Meeting of Southern Economics Association (scheduled), Tampa, FL; Economics Graduate Student Conference, St.Louis, MO;

## PUBLICATIONS

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“Cost Comparison and Spending on Tobacco Products: Evidence from a Nationally Representative Sample of Adult E-cigarette Users” with Shaoying Ma, Qian Yang, Hojin Park, Yanyun He, John FP Bridges, and Ce Shang. *Nicotine and Tobacco Research* (2025)

“The Association Between Product Attributes and Oral Nicotine Pouch Preference—Evidence From Online Stores” with Andrew Hardin, Shaoying Ma, Veronica Thai, Micah Berman, Darren Mays, Jian Chen, Electra D Paskett, Theodore L Wagener, Ce Shang. *Nicotine and Tobacco Research* (2025)

“Where Do E-cigarette Users Buy Their E-cigarette Products? Results From a Nationally Representative Sample of Adult E-cigarette Users in the United States” with Shaoying Ma and Ce Shang. *Nicotine and Tobacco Research* (2025)

“Features of Disposable E-cigarettes and their Association with Pricing and Consumer Preference: Evidence from Web Data of US Online Stores” with Shaoying Ma, Aadeeba Kaareen, Qian Yang, Zefeng Qiu, Jian Chen, Micah Berman, Theodore Wagener, and Ce Shang. *Addiction*, 120(3):514-523 (2025)

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## WORKING PAPERS

“Impact of Physician Supply on Health Outcomes of Underserved Populations”

“Disentangling Barriers to Welfare Program Participation with a Semiparametric Approach” with Bill Wang

“How Do US Adults Who Vape Choose among Different E-cigarette Models and Cigarettes in Response to Prices and Taxes” with Shaoying Ma, Hojin Park, Qian Yang, Lei Xu, John Bridges, and Ce Shang. Revise and Resubmit at *Health Economics*

“Does Student Loan Debt Affect Post-Baccalaureate Education?”

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## RESEARCH ASSISTANCE

**2025-2026** Department of Economics, The Ohio State University (PI: Professor Bruce Weinberg)

**2023-2024** Center for Tobacco Research, Comprehensive Cancer Center (PI: Professor Ce Shang)

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## PRESENTATIONS

**2025** Applied Microeconomics Lunch Seminar, The Ohio State University.

**2024** Tobacco Centers of Regulatory Science Grantee Meeting Poster Session, Bethesda, MD; Annual Congress of the International Institute of Public Finance, Prague, Czech Republic; Applied Microeconomics Lunch Seminar, The Ohio State University; Midwest Economics Association 88th Annual Conference, Chicago, IL; Tobacco Online Policy Seminar ([Link to Video](#)).

**2023** Applied Microeconomics Lunch Seminar, The Ohio State University; BGSU-OSU Graduate Student Conference on Population, Columbus, OH.

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## FELLOWSHIP AND AWARDS

**2025** Tom Kniesner and Debbie Freund Award (in recognition of high-quality research in health economics); Larry and Shelia Kantor Award

**2024** Larry and Shelia Kantor Award (in recognition of the service to the graduate student population)

**2020-2022** Doctoral Studies Scholarship, Bank of Korea

**2015** 1st Prize, Bank of Korea Paper Competition

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## TEACHING

**AU 2022, SP 2023, SU 2023** Instructor, Principles of Microeconomics

**SP 2022** Recitation Leader, Principles of Microeconomics

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## SERVICE

**2023-2025** President & Treasurer, Graduate Women in Economics at The Ohio State University  
– Founded the Annual Research and Networking Forum

## SKILLS

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**Software and programming:** Stata, R, Python, Matlab,  $\LaTeX$ , SQL

**Language:** English (Fluent), Korean (Native), Japanese (Intermediate), French (Basic)

## REFERENCES

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Professor Kurt Lavetti  
Department of Economics  
The Ohio State University  
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Professor Meta Brown  
Department of Economics  
The Ohio State University  
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Professor Tamar Oostrom  
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