

Applied Microeconometrics with Health Data

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In this book review, I would like to introduce the book titled “Applied Microeconometrics with Health Data”.

As this book is an econometrics book, first of all, it would be more suitable to discuss and provide information about econometrics. Econometrics is one of the branches of economics. Therefore, the methods used specifically in the analysis of any topics regarding economics are covered by econometrics. Nevertheless, econometric methods could be utilized in many branches of science including Health Sciences. As a result, we might assert that econometrics could be used in the economic analysis of events encountered in different branches of science. Besides, in order to analyze specific subjects of various branches of science, econometric methods could be employed.

Various methods collected under the name of microeconometrics in the literature are used in special cases that would result from the characteristics of the science to be considered. Microeconometrics could be categorized as different methods in the econometrics literature. A special field of microeconometrics known as “Health Econometrics” employs health data that need to be analyzed via the methods in the econometrics literature, which is the subject of this book titled “Applied Microeconometrics with Health Data”.

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The book is written for those individuals (researchers, students or other people) who would like to conduct econometric analyzes with the use of health data. In the book, microeconometrics topics in Health Econometrics are explained with a clear and simple language. The chapters are structured at a level that would benefit anyone who are interested in the application of microeconometrics with health data. The book would not only be informative and useful to people who are interested in econometrics, but also to anyone who are specifically interested in health sciences.

These days, once econometric analysis is considered, it is taken into account together with computer package programs. For this particular reason, the Stata package program is utilized to facilitate the work of researchers in the book. Thus, while making applications easier, researchers would not require any search for package programs and their studies would be completed in a shorter time. The book is a resource that supports both implementation, reporting and interpretation of econometric results.

The book consists of twelve chapters arranged in accordance with the development stages of the research. Each of the chapters has a basic structure in which the theory of the method, predictions and tests, and the use of Stata program commands related to the topics covered are explained. The chapters commence with the discussion of health econometrics and health data. Then, the data arrangement in the statistical literature is described. This section is especially important for those who would like to conduct research in fields other than any science related to the analysis of data such as statistics and econometrics. The explanations then continue with the microeconometrics chapters after explaining the linear and nonlinear models that form the basis of the basic microeconometrics chapters. In the general framework of the book, the order of the chapters are as follows: Health Econometrics and Health Data, Data Editing, Tables and Graphs, Linear Regression Models, Generalized Linear Models, Non-Linear Models, Conditional and Unconditional Quantile Regression, Binary Preference Models, Multinomial Logit and Probit Models, Ordered Logit and Probit Models, Counting Data Models, Duration Models, Panel Regression Models.

The book is edited by Ebru Çağlayan Akay and Özge Korkmaz. The total number of authors in the book is twelve and all are academics. In addition, the editors are also chapter authors. I know most of the authors well along with their academic works, as they are all successful, ethical and disciplined academics. The authors, in order of title, without specifying the title, are Ebru Çağlayan Akay, Sibel Selim, Ferda Yerdelen Tatoğlu, Filiz Çakır Zeytinoğlu, Nebile Korucu Gümüšoğlu, Özge Korkmaz, Hatice Hicret Özkoç, Sinem Güler Kangallı Uyar, Melek Astar, Özlem Gökteş, Merve Ertok Onurlu and Nazan Şak.

I would like to congratulate my academic colleagues who contributed, especially the editors. I am looking forward to their continued successful work. Thank you for your efforts. There are English written microeconometrics books in the literature (i.e. Blundell 1992; Cameron and Trivedi 2005; 2010; Lee 2005). However, there had been an extensive gap for a Turkish written microeconometrics book for long times. Therefore, as the book fills a big gap in the Turkish literature of microeconometrics, I recommend the book to anyone seeking information on this specific subject.

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