



# UNIVERSITY OF THE PHILIPPINES SCHOOL OF ECONOMICS

*and*

# PCED

Philippine Center for  
Economic Development

*present a seminar on*

## **Factors associated with the delay in seeking inpatient and outpatient care services in the Philippines**

by

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PhD Candidate

**03 March 2017, Friday**  
**4:00-5:00p.m. – Rm 303**

### ***Abstract***

Moving towards universal health care, the Philippines has seen in recent years an aggressive expansion in social health insurance coverage and new policies to make health facilities more accessible. Against this background, we investigate if households delay their visits to health facilities and the factors associated with the delay in seeking inpatient and outpatient care services, using a nationally-representative sample of households. Delay in seeking care is measured in two ways: first, for the outpatient sample, as the number of days between the onset of symptoms and the individual's visit to a health facility; and, second, for the inpatient sample, whether or not the individual was confined within the same day or in the following day after the doctor's advice. Applying a proportional hazard model on the outpatient sample, we find that individuals belonging to the second income quintile or who have reported to have bad health status prior to illness/injury are less likely to delay seeking outpatient care. The age of the sick or ill member also has a significant effect on the timeliness of outpatient visit. Applying a probit model on the inpatient sample, we find that the delay in hospital confinement is less likely when the sick household member is working or if there is a private hospital within the vicinity. We find that health insurance coverage has no statistically significant effect on the delay in seeking outpatient or inpatient care services.

### ***About the speaker:***

Louisa Camille R. Poco, is a PhD Candidate at the School of Economics University of the Philippines-Diliman, and research associate with the UPSE Health Econ Lab.



**Free and open to the public**

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