

**PPA07**

## **Heterogeneous Patient Response to Uniform Increase in Emergency Department Attendance Fee: A Territory-Wide Study**

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### **Abstract**

Emergency department (ED) overcrowding is a global health problem as it disrupts EDs' role as a public safety net. In hopes of reducing patient traffic to mitigate ED overcrowding, several countries with a universal healthcare system have increased the financial burden on access to ED care by increasing ED entry fee. However, the impact of such policies and potential heterogeneity in patient responses have not been studied rigorously in prior literature. We perform a territory-wide study of the universal public health system in Hong Kong SAR.

### **Conference Track**

Public Policy and Public Administration