PORTAL
Program On Regulation, Therapeutics, And Law

Division of Pharmacoepidemiology and Pharmacoeconomics Phone: 617-278-0930
Harvard Medical School | Brigham & Women's Hospital Fax: 617-232-8602
www.PORTALresearch.org

February 12, 2026

National Bureau of Economic Research (NBER)
1050 Massachusetts Avenue
Cambridge, MA 02138

RE: Application for the 2026 NBER Innovation Research Boot Camp

Dear Members of the Innovation Research Boot Camp Selection Committee,

I am excited to apply for the 2026 NBER Innovation Research Boot Camp. I am a Postdoctoral Fellow within the Program on Regulation, Therapeutics, and Law (PORTAL) at Harvard Medical School and Brigham and Women's Hospital. My research interest is in examining how pharmaceutical R&D incentives align with global disease burden. Since I am based in Boston, **I do not require travel or lodging support**.

I received my PhD in Health Metrics Sciences from the University of Washington, with doctoral training grounded in **econometrics, causal inference, and applied statistics**. I completed doctoral-level mathematical statistics (ECON 580) and have been supervised by economists including Dr. Joseph Dieleman and Dr. Günther Fink. I have also taught within my department's health economics sequence. I am eager to deepen my command of innovation-focused empirical methods through the Boot Camp.

This program is a **key step in my transition toward an independent research agenda**. I am developing a proposal for a Swiss National Science Foundation *Ambizione* grant to be hosted within Dr. Gaétan de Rassenfosse's innovation economics lab at the Ecole Polytechnique Fédérale de Lausanne. My proposed project on mapping the pharmaceutical pipeline to the global burden of disease requires the mastery of innovation-specific methods, such as modeling R&D responsiveness to health shocks, which this Boot Camp provides.

I would bring to the Boot Camp **domain expertise in pharmaceutical markets and disease burden measurement**. I look forward to engaging with the NBER innovation community including key leaders in medical innovation economics such as Professors Heidi Williams and Kyle Myers. Upon completion, I plan to **share insights with colleagues at PORTAL** to strengthen our group's work in pharmaceutical economics.

Please find enclosed my Statement of Research Interests, Doctoral Coursework Summary, and CV. My primary reference, Dr. Aaron Kesselheim (akesselheim@bwh.harvard.edu), is available for further questions.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Maitreyi Sahu, PhD
Postdoctoral Fellow – Program On Regulation, Therapeutics, And Law (PORTAL)
Harvard Medical School / Brigham and Women's Hospital
41 Avenue Louis Pasteur, Suite B21, Boston, MA 02115
msahu1@bwh.harvard.edu | (206)-902-8840

Maitreyi Sahu, PhD

NBER Innovation Research Boot Camp 2026

Statement of Research Interests

My primary research interest is in quantifying and identifying structural determinants of the "Medicines Innovation–Burden Gap": the systemic misalignment between global pharmaceutical R&D investment and spending with unmet population health needs. As a postdoctoral fellow at Harvard Medical School's Program on Regulation, Therapeutics, and Law (PORTAL), I study how market structures and incentives shape the direction of technical change in medicine. Building on my doctoral work with the Global Burden of Disease Study at the Institute for Health Metrics and Evaluation (University of Washington), my goal is to build an empirical framework, supported by a forthcoming Swiss National Science Foundation proposal hosted at the Swiss Federal Institute of Technology in Lausanne (EPFL), that uses high-resolution health metrics to identify when and why innovation is steered away from therapeutic areas with the highest potential social returns.

This agenda builds directly on a rigorous body of work documenting distortions in R&D incentives. Williams and colleagues demonstrated that market structures skew investment toward shorter-term, late-stage cancer treatments over early-stage therapies (Budish, Roin, & Williams, 2015) and toward primary rather than secondary drug indications (Budish, Durvasula, Roin, & Williams, 2025). These 'missing markets' for innovation contribute to what Kyle and Williams (2017) describe as a 'uniquely inefficient' system in which low-quality drugs diffuse widely throughout the US health care system. I intend to extend this literature by leveraging my experience with large disease burden data to measure how pharmaceutical innovation responds to shifts in population need. Building on Myers and Pauly (2019), who demonstrate the responsiveness of medical research to demographic change, I aim to estimate the elasticity of the pharmaceutical pipeline to variation in disease burden, including global health shocks, and assess how this responsiveness differs across income strata.

I bring a distinct methodological advantage to these questions through my experience with large-scale administrative, geospatial, and disease burden data. During my doctoral training, I developed a machine-learning framework to probabilistically link more than 100,000 National Drug Codes (NDCs) to 143 clinical conditions. Applied to 27 billion pharmacy claims, this approach generated condition-specific estimates of pharmaceutical spending and utilization for all 3,110 US counties. My ongoing work uses natural language processing to map clinical indications more precisely, addressing a persistent challenge in linking R&D data (e.g. method-of-use patents, clinical trials, and pipeline drugs) to granular disease outcomes. To further this work, I am gaining proficiency in the FDA Orange Book, relying on the user guide developed by Durvasula, Hemphill, Ouellette, Sampat and Williams (2023) to better characterize pharmaceutical patent lifecycles.

My ability to translate health metrics into policy-relevant analysis is reflected in my contribution to a National Academy of Medicine (NAM) report on "Strategies to Better Align Investments in Innovations for Therapeutic Development with Disease Burden and Unmet Needs." In my role as part of Dr. Steven Lim's team, I analyzed the alignment of pharmaceutical pipeline products with global disease burden. My selection to the 2026 NAM Emerging Leaders in Health and Medicine Forum further highlights my commitment to advancing this field.

The NBER Innovation Research Boot Camp is a critical next step in my development as an independent scholar. While my background in health metrics provides deep experience with large-scale data infrastructure and empirical analysis, I seek the Boot Camp's intensive training to strengthen my theoretical grounding in innovation economics and advance my trajectory toward leading a pharmaceutical innovation-focused research group at EPFL. I am especially eager to engage with the work of Professors Heidi Williams and Kyle Myers. I also intend to amplify the program's impact by bringing its frameworks and research methodologies back to PORTAL, strengthening our collective work in pharmaceutical economics. I look forward to contributing my expertise in disease burden measurement and pharmaceutical policy to the 2026 cohort.

PhD in Health Metrics Sciences (Graduated August 2025)

- **GRE Scores: 166 Quantitative; 169 Verbal**
- **Overall GPA: 3.93/4.0**

Course No.	Title	Description	Grade
Foundational Math/Statistics			
MATH 124/125/126	Calculus	Single-variable through multivariable calculus (retaken from undergraduate years)	P
MATH 308	Matrix Algebra	Linear algebra covering systems of equations, determinants, eigenvalues, eigenvectors.	P
ECON 580 /CS&SS 509	Mathematical Statistics	Probability densities, moment generating functions, conditional expectation, asymptotic theory, Bayesian conjugate priors, properties of estimators.	P
Statistical Modelling			
BIOST 517/518	Biostatistics I/II	Descriptive and inferential modeling for independent and correlated continuous, discrete, and right-censored biomedical data.	A/A
CS&SS 510	Maximum Likelihood Estimation	Regression methods beyond linear regression including for binary data, ordered categorical data, non-ordered categorical data, and counts.	A
STAT 560	Hierarchical Modelling	Multilevel models for data hierarchically organized into clusters or nested units.	A
CS&SS 512	Time Series & Panel Data	Regression models for longitudinal data, including stationary and nonstationary time series.	A
STAT 554	Spatial Statistics	Methods for spatial data analysis including clustering, spatial regression, and Bayesian spatial smoothing models.	A-
BIOST 529	Sample Survey Techniques	Design and analysis of probability samples, including stratified, cluster, multistage designs.	A-
STAT 564	Bayesian Statistics	Bayes' Theorem, prior and posterior distributions, Markov chains, Gaussian processes.	A
Causal Inference			
GH 536	Adv. Global Health Methods I	Analysis of randomized and cluster-randomized trials, including generalized estimating equations and random-effects models.	A
GH 537	Adv. Global Health Methods	Analysis of quasi-experimental data, including differences-in-differences, interrupted time series, instrumental variables (IV), regression discontinuity.	A
EPI 512	Epidemiologic Methods	Disease frequency, measurement error, misclassification, effect modification.	A
EPI 513	Advanced Epi Methods	Types of bias: selection bias, classification bias, time-varying confounding, etc.	A

Notes: Grades are converted from UW grading system (A = 3.9-4.0, A- = 3.5-3.8). Foundational math courses were taken on Pass/Fail basis as per department policy.

Maitreyi Sahu, PhD

Scholar • msahu1@bwh.harvard.edu • LinkedIn
Boston, MA

PROFILE

Quantitative pharmaceutical policy researcher using data science, geospatial, and causal inference methods to advance affordable, equitable access to high-value medicines. I analyze large-scale claims, facility, and trial data to evaluate how market structures and delivery models shape access and value. My work spans US and international health systems, with a strong record of data-driven contributions across diverse settings.

CURRENT POSITION

Harvard Medical School / Brigham and Women's Hospital, Boston, MA *Sep 2025 –*
Postdoctoral Fellow – Program on Regulation, Therapeutics, and Law (PORTAL)

EDUCATION

University of Washington, Seattle, WA *Aug 2025*
PhD, Health Metrics Sciences – Concentration in Social Statistics (GPA: 3.93 / 4.0)
- Selected Coursework: Causal Inference, Hierarchical Modeling, Spatial Statistics, Survey Methods, Time Series, Implementation Science, Mathematical Statistics, Bayesian Methods
- Thesis: *Mapping Disparities in Medication Access, Utilization, and Spending across the United States*

Johns Hopkins School of Public Health, Baltimore, MD *May 2013*
MSPH, International Health – Concentration in Global Disease Epidemiology | Certificate in Vaccine Policy

Johns Hopkins University, Baltimore, MD *May 2010*
BA, Public Health – Concentration in Biomedical Sciences | General & Departmental Honors

RESEARCH EXPERIENCE

Institute for Health Metrics & Evaluation, University of Washington, Seattle, WA 2019-25
- Research Scientist and Co-Investigator, US Pharmaceutical Expenditure, 2023-24
- Predoctoral Research Fellow, US & Global Disease Expenditure Teams, 2019-23

Mass General Hospital / Univ. of Washington, Research Consultant (HIV), part-time 2020-25

Swiss Tropical & Public Health Institute, Health Economics Research Associate, Basel, CH 2018-19

Field Work	Sierra Leone, S. Sudan, Malawi (1+ years); S. Africa, Lesotho, Benin, India (short-term)
Other	The Global Fund (Geneva); NYC DoH (Epi Scholars); Baltimore City Needle Exchange

TECHNICAL SKILLS

Software	R (advanced); Stata, QGIS (intermediate); LaTeX, Python, Git, command line (basic)
Skills	Statistical modeling, geospatial analysis, data visualization, distributed computing
Big Data	Health insurance claims, pharmaceutical sales & pipeline products, national surveys

HONORS & AWARDS

2026	National Academy of Medicine (NAM) Emerging Leaders in Health and Medicine Forum
2024	American Society for Health Economists (ASHEcon) Diversity Scholarship
2023	Graduate Student Equity & Excellence Award ($4500), University of Washington
2022	Global Opportunities Health Fellowship ($2500), University of Washington
2012	Global Health Field Research Award ($3500), Johns Hopkins School of Public Health
2010	General University & Departmental Honors in Public Health, Johns Hopkins University
2009	Merck Undergraduate Global Health Award ($5000), Johns Hopkins University

GRANTS AWARDED

Measuring drivers of racial inequity in US pharmaceutical spending and utilization
Role: Scientific Lead (PI: J. Dieleman)
Funder: National Pharmaceutical Council · *Institution:* Institute for Health Metrics & Evaluation
Amount: $175,000 · *Dates:* 9/2023 - 12/2024
Responsibilities: Initiated and wrote the grant, built collaborations, coordinated project meetings, and led two first-author publications.

Health systems readiness for malaria elimination, 2000-2016
Role: Co-Investigator (PIs: G. Fink, F. Tediosi)
Funder: World Health Organization · *Institution*: Swiss Tropical and Public Health Institute
Amount: 14,000 CHF · *Dates*: 3/2018 - 6/2019
Responsibilities: Drafted the concept note, participated in WHO Malaria Eradication meetings in Geneva, and led the first-author publication.

JOURNAL ARTICLES

Health Policy & Pharmaceutical Markets

1. **Sahu M**, Wagner TD, DeJarnatt D, Lescinsky H, Beauchamp M, Crosby S, Taylor K, Thomson A, Weil M, Wittenauer R, Dwyer-Lindgren L, Haakenstad A, Qato DM, Stergachis A, Campbell JD, Dieleman JL. "Access To Community Pharmacies Associated With Reduced Racial And Ethnic Disparities In Use Of Prescription Drugs, 2010-2023." (Minor revisions, ***Health Affairs***)

2. Lescinsky H*, **Sahu M***, Beauchamp M, Crosby S, Johnson EK, McHugh T, Scott JW, Thomson A, Weil M, Schulman K, Dieleman JL, Milstein A. "State-Level Change in Health Care Value Over Three Decades in the United States, 1991-2020." ***Health Serv Res***. Oct 2025. **Equal contribution.* Link

3. **Sahu M,** Wagner TD, Thomson A, Beauchamp M, Campbell JD, Crosby S, DeJarnatt D, Lescinsky H, Salih RK, Taylor K, Weil M, Dwyer-Lindgren L, Haakenstad A, Scott JW, Stergachis A, Essien UR, Dieleman JL. "Prescription drug utilization and spending by race, ethnicity, payer, health condition, and US state." ***JAMA Health Forum***. Aug 2025. Link

4. Lescinsky H, Beauchamp M, Bisagnano C, Crosby S, DeJarnatt D, **Sahu M**, Taylor K, Thomson A, Weil M, Mokdad A, Scott JW, Murray CJL, Dieleman JL. "Evaluating US County Health Care System Performance: A Triple Aim Framework Analysis (2014–2019) with Key Factors Associated with Performance." ***Lancet Public Health***. Aug 2025. Link

5. Mattingly II TJ, **Sahu M**, Anderson KE. "Community Pharmacy Turnover and Context of Openings and Closings by Ownership Type." ***JAMA Health Forum***. Aug 2025. Link

6. US County Disease Expenditure Team [including **Sahu M**]. "Tracking US Health Care Spending by Health Condition and County, 2010–2019." ***JAMA***. Feb 2025. Link

7. US County Disease Expenditure Team [including **Sahu M**]."Drivers of variation in health care spending across US counties in 2019." ***JAMA Health Forum***. Feb 2025. Link

8. Anderson KE, **Sahu M**, DiStefano MJ, Asche CV, Mattingly II TJ. "Pharmacy Closures and Anticonvulsant Medication Prescription Fills in Colorado." ***JAMA***. Nov 2024. Link

9. Johnson E, Wojtesta M, Crosby S, Duber H, Jun E, Lescinsky H, Nguyen P, **Sahu M**, Thomson A, Tsakalos G, Weil M, Haakenstad A, Mokdad A, Murray CJL, Dieleman JL. "Varied health spending growth across US states was associated with income, price levels, and Medicaid expansion." ***Health Affairs***. Aug 2022. Link

10. Dieleman JL, Chen C, Crosby S, Liu A, McCracken D, Pollock I, **Sahu M**, Tsakalos G, Dwyer-Lindgren L, Haakenstad A, Mokdad A, Roth G, Scott KW, Murray CJL. "US Healthcare Spending by Race and Ethnicity, 2002-2016." ***JAMA***. Aug 2021. *(Media attention: New York Times, CNN, Forbes)* Link

11. Dieleman JL, Kaldjian A, **Sahu M**, Chen C, Liu A, Chapin A, Scott KW, Aravkin S, Zheng P, Mokdad A, Murray CJL, Schulman K, Milstein A. "Estimating healthcare delivery system value for each US state and testing key associations." ***Health Serv Res***. May 2020. Link

12. (Submitted) Ozten Y, Bliss E, Silke F, Smith A, Morris A, Everdyke C, Paone K, Sandar L, **Sahu M**, Oleynikova M, Cortopossi N, Angelino O, Lim S. "Measuring pharmaceutical product research and development alignment with the global burden of disease."

13. (Submitted) Silke F, Ozten Y, Angelino O, Cortopassi N, Morris A, Paone K, Bliss E, Oleynikova M, **Sahu M**, Smith A, Lim S. "Disease burden averted by pharmaceutical products from 20 pharmaceutical companies: A systematic analysis of the Global Burden of Disease Study."

14. (Submitted) Beauchamp M, Thomson A, Crosby S, DeJarnatt D, Lescinsky H, McHugh T, **Sahu M**, Taylor K, Weil M, Scott JW, Dwyer-Lindgren L, Essien UR, Mokdad A, Dieleman JL. "Tracking US State Health Spending by Race and Ethnicity."

Global Health Systems & Infectious Diseases

15. **Sahu M**, Szpiro A, van Rooyen H, Asiimwe S, Shahmanesh M, Roberts DA, Krows M, Sausi K, Sithole N, Schaafsma T, Baeten JM, Shapiro AE, van Heerden A, Barnabas RV. "Non-communicable disease risk among people living with HIV in KwaZulu-Natal, South Africa: evidence from a randomized trial of community-based differentiated service delivery." ***J Int AIDS Soc***. July 2025. Link

16. Tseng A, Barnabas RV, van Heerden A, Ntinga X, **Sahu M**. "Costs of home-delivered antiretroviral therapy refills for persons living with HIV: evidence from a pilot randomized controlled trial in KwaZulu-Natal, South Africa." ***PLOS Glob Public Health***. Dec 2024. Link

17. Global Burden of Disease 2021 Antimicrobial Resistance Collaborators [including **Sahu M**]. "Global burden of bacterial antimicrobial resistance 1990–2021: a systematic analysis with forecasts to 2050." ***Lancet***. Sep 2024. Link

18. **Sahu M**, Schaafsma T, Szpiro A, van Rooyen H, Asiimwe S, Shahmanesh M, Krows M, Sithole N, van Heerden A, Barnabas RV. "Performance of patient-collected dried blood spot specimens for HIV-1

viral load testing in South Africa." ***AIDS***. Sep 2024. Link Comment

19. Apeagyei A, **Sahu M**. "Claims data from insurance programs in sub-Saharan Africa: an untapped resource to promote Universal Health Coverage." ***BMJ Glob Health.*** Jul 2024. [Commentary]. Link

20. **Sahu M**, Bayer C, Roberts DA, van Rooyen H, van Heerden A, Shahmanesh M, Asiimwe S, Sausi K, Sithole N, Ying R, Rao D, Krows M, Shapiro AE, Baeten JM, Celum C, Revill P, Barnabas RV. "Population health impact, cost-effectiveness, and affordability of community-based HIV treatment and monitoring in South Africa: a health economics modelling study." ***PLOS Glob Public Health.*** Sep 2023. Link Spotlight

21. Global Burden of Disease 2021 Health Financing Collaborators [including **Sahu M**]. "Global investments in pandemic preparedness and COVID-19: development assistance and domestic spending on health between 1990 and 2026." ***Lancet Glob Health***. Jan 2023. Link

22. Local Burden of Disease HIV Prevalence Collaborators [including **Sahu M**]. "Mapping age- and sex-specific HIV prevalence in adults in sub-Saharan Africa, 2000–2018." ***BMC Medicine***. Dec 2022. Link

23. Global Burden of Disease 2019 Healthcare Access and Quality Collaborators [including **Sahu M**]. "Assessing performance of the Healthcare Access and Quality Index, overall and by select age groups, for 204 countries and territories, 1990-2019: a systematic analysis from the Global Burden of Disease Study 2019." ***Lancet Glob Health***. Oct 2022. Link

24. Durizzo K, Harrtgen K, Tediosi F, **Sahu M**, Joachim A, Salari P, Günther I. "Towards mandatory health insurance in low-income countries? An analysis of claims data in Tanzania." ***Health Econ***. Aug 2022. Link

25. Morozoff C, Avokpaho E, Kaliappan SP, Simwanza J, Gideon SP, Lungu W, Houngnegnon P, Galactionova K, **Sahu M**, Kalua K, Luty A, Ibikounle M, Bailey R, Pullan R, Ajjampur SSR, Walson J, Means AR. "Costs of community-wide mass drug administration and school-based deworming for soil-transmitted helminths: evidence from Benin, India, and Malawi." ***BMJ Open***. Jul 2022. Link

26. Global Burden of Disease 2019 Human Resources for Health Collaborators [including **Sahu M**]. "Measuring the availability of human resources for health and its relationship to universal health coverage: estimates for 204 countries and territories from 1990 to 2019." ***Lancet***. May 2022. Link

27. Galactionova K, **Sahu M**, Gideon SP, Kaliappan SP, Morozoff C, Ajjampur SSR, Walson J, Means AR, Tediosi F. "Costing interventions in the field: preliminary cost estimates and lessons from an evaluation of community-wide Mass Drug Administration for elimination of Soil-Transmitted Helminths in the DeWorm3 trial." ***BMJ Open***. Jul 2021. Link

28. Local Burden of Disease HIV Collaborators [including **Sahu M**]. "Subnational mapping of HIV incidence and mortality among adults aged 15-49 in sub-Saharan Africa, 2000-18." ***Lancet HIV***. Jun 2021. Link

29. Global Burden of Disease Health Financing Collaborators [including **Sahu M**]. "Tracking development assistance for health and for the COVID-19 pandemic: a review of development assistance, government, out-of-pocket, and other private spending for 204 countries, 1990–2050." ***Lancet***. Sep 2021. Link

30. **Sahu M**, Tediosi F, Noor AM, Aponte JJ, Fink G. "Health Systems and Global Progress towards Malaria Elimination." 2000-2016. ***Malar J***. Apr 2020. Link

31. Global Burden of Disease Health Financing Collaborators [including **Sahu M**]. "Health spending and spending on HIV/AIDS, tuberculosis, and malaria, and development assistance for health: progress towards Sustainable Development Goal 3." ***Lancet***. Apr 2020. Link

32. Su Y, Garcia Baena I, Harle AC, Crosby SW, Micah AE, Siroka A, **Sahu M**, Tsakalos G, Murray CJL, Floyd K, Dieleman JL. "Tracking total spending on tuberculosis by source in low- and middle-income countries, 2000–2017: an economic modelling study." ***Lancet Infect Dis***. Apr 2020. Link

33. Zwerling A*, **Sahu M***, Ngwira L, Khundi M, Harawa T, Corbett L, Chaisson R, Dowdy D. "Screening for tuberculosis among adults newly diagnosed with HIV in sub-Saharan Africa: a cost-effectiveness analysis." ***J Acquire Immun Defic Syndr***. Jun 2015. **Equal contribution.* Link

34. Tiam A, Machekano R, Gounder CR, Maama-Maime LB, Ntene-Sealiete K, **Sahu M**, Isavwa A, Oyebanji O, Ahimbisibwe A, Mokone M, Barnes GL, Chaisson RE, Guay L, Kassaye S. "Preventing tuberculosis among HIV-infected pregnant women in Lesotho: the case for rolling out Active Case Finding and Isoniazid Preventive Therapy." ***J Acquire Immun Defic Syndr***. Sep 2014. Link

35. (Submitted) Hathaway C, Klein S, Guha A, Umutesi G, Ngure K, Nyangasi M, Magare JO, Tran J, **Sahu M**, Sharma M, Mugo NR, Barnabas RV, Heitner J. "Potential impacts of PEPFAR funding cuts on the HIV and cervical cancer burden in Kenya: A mathematical modeling analysis."

Manuscripts in Preparation

36. **Sahu M**, Mooney H, Kesselheim AS, Rome BN. "Generic Competition and Use of Prescription Drugs, 2014-2024." (In preparation; expected submission in February)

37. **Sahu M**, Lescinsky H, Feldman WB, Dieleman JL, Kesselheim AS. "The Growing Concentration in Prescription Drug Spending." (In preparation; expected submission in March)

38. **Sahu M**, Dieleman JL, Kesselheim AS. "Concentrated Spending, Unequal Benefit: Aligning Pharmaceutical Investment with Public Health Value." (In preparation)

39. **Sahu M**, Koos H, Lescinsky H, Thomson A, Schulman K, Milstein A, Dieleman JL. "Hospital Market Consolidation Across the US: Measurement and Implications for Inpatient Prices" (In preparation)

POLICY REPORTS & DATASETS

Published Reports

1. Fink G, **Sahu M**, Tediosi F. 'Health systems readiness for malaria elimination and eradication' in *Malaria eradication: benefits, future scenarios & feasibility.* WHO: 20 Apr 2020, pp. 52-58. Link

2. WHO Strategic Advisory Group on Malaria Eradication. *Malaria eradication: benefits, future scenarios and feasibility. Executive summary.* WHO; 23 Aug 2019. Link

Textbook Contributions

1. **Sahu M**. (2019). 'Case study on Health Systems and Ebola' in Missoni E, Pacileo G, Tediosi F. *Global Health Governance and Policy.* Abingdon-on-Thames: Routledge, pp.252-256. Link

Open-Source Databases

1. Fullman N, Adolph A, Amano K, Bang-Jensen B, Magistro B, Reinke G, **Sahu M**, Wilkerson J. State-level social distancing policies in response to the 2019 coronavirus in the US. (2020). Link

PRESENTATIONS

Conference Presentations (As First Author)

2026 **National Academy of Medicine Emerging Leaders Forum.** Washington, DC.
[Invited Presentation planned for April; title TBD]

2025 **International Health Economics Association.** Bali, Indonesia.
(Podium). "Linking Drugs to Diagnoses Using Pharmaceutical Claims and Measuring Off-Label Prescribing."
(Podium). "Exploring Change in Health Care Delivery System Value for 50 US States over Three Decades: 1991-2020."

2025 **Western Pharmacoeconomics Conference.** Seattle, WA.
(Podium). "Linking drugs to diagnoses: a method and its application measuring off-label prescribing."
(Poster). "Prescription Drug Utilization and Spending by Race, Ethnicity, Payer, Health Condition, and State." [**Awarded 'Outstanding Poster'**]

2024 **AcademyHealth Annual Research Meeting.** Baltimore, MD.
(Podium). "Variation in Prescription Drug Utilization and Spending By Race/Ethnicity and US State, Payer, and Health Condition."

2024 **American Society for Health Economists.** San Diego, CA.
(Podium). "Change in State Health Care Value over Three Decades."
(Podium). "US Hospital Market Concentration, 2000-2022."

2023 **American Society for Health Economists.** St. Louis, MO.
(Podium). "Spending and utilization on off-label prescribing."

2023 **AcademyHealth Annual Research Meeting.** Seattle, WA.
(Poster). "Off-label prescription drug utilization and spending in the US, 2010-2019."

2023 **Conference on Retroviruses and Opportunistic Infections.** Seattle.
(Poster). "Cardiovascular risk among people accessing HIV care in South Africa."

2022 **AcademyHealth Annual Research Meeting.** Washington, DC.
(Poster). "Estimating US state-level healthcare value and its association with key health system characteristics and policies."

2021 **International AIDS Society.** Virtual. July 2021.
(Virtual Poster). "Cost-effectiveness of community delivery of HIV care in South Africa."

2020 **AcademyHealth Annual Research Meeting.** Virtual. June 2020.
(Virtual Poster). "US Health Care Spending by Payer and Health Condition, 1996-2016."

Invited Seminars & Guest Lectures

2024 **Brigham and Women's Hospital.** PORTAL Weekly Seminar. (Job Talk; Virtual).
Swiss Tropical & Public Health Institute. Health Systems Seminar. Basel, CH.
UW School of Pharmacy CHOICE Institute. PHEnOM Seminar. Seattle, WA.
2023 **UNC Gillings School of Public Health.** Health Economics Guest Lecture. (Virtual).
Harvard Center for AIDS Research. Monthly Seminar. (Virtual).
2022 **Fred Hutchinson Cancer Center.** Data of Cancer Research Seminar. (Virtual).
2021 **UW Center for AIDS Research**. Health Economics Training Workshop. (Virtual).
2018 **Imperial College London.** DeWorm3 Economic Evaluation Meeting. London, UK.
2017 **Johns Hopkins SPH.** Seminar on Alumni Field Experiences. Baltimore, MD.
2016 **Wageningen University.** Dept of Development Economics. One Health Workshop. NL.
2013 **World Health Organization.** Global Malaria Programme Meeting. Geneva, CH.

TEACHING

2023 **University of Washington**
HMS 540 Health Economics & Systems in LMICs (TA for Dr. A. Haakenstad)

2018 **Swiss Tropical and Public Health Institute**
Epidemiology 11654 (Tutor for Dr. D. Mäusezahl)

2010-13 (3 terms) **Johns Hopkins School of Public Health**
Epidemiologic Basis for TB Control 340.612 (TA for Dr. J. Golub)

SERVICE

Advisory & Policy Engagement

2018-19 **WHO Strategic Advisory Group on malaria eradication** (SAGme)
Invited member of the Strategic Advisory Group in Geneva, Switzerland

Institutional Service

2019-24 **Institute for Health Metrics & Evaluation**
Mentorship Program: Mentored 3 junior researchers (A. Bowman, K. LeGrand, H. Han) to successful PhD program placements.
Committee Service: Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion Committee Member (2019-20); Co-Facilitator for Reading Club on Racism & Discrimination in Health Care (2020-21).

Professional & Editorial Activities

Affiliations: Harvard Center for AIDS Research, AcademyHealth, American Society of Health Economists, International Health Economics Association

Referee Service:
AIDS
BMC Public Health
BMJ Open
Journal of the International AIDS Society
Lancet Regional Health (Americas)
PLOS Medicine

PORTAL
Program On Regulation, Therapeutics, And Law

Division of Pharmacoepidemiology and Pharmacoeconomics Phone: 617-278-0930
Harvard Medical School | Brigham & Women's Hospital Fax: 617-232-8602
www.PORTALresearch.org

February 12, 2026

Brett Maranjian (maranjian@nber.org)
National Bureau of Economic Research
1050 Massachusetts Avenue
Cambridge, MA 02138

RE: Recommendation for Maitreyi Sahu, PhD – NBER Innovation Research Boot Camp

Dear Selection Committee,

I am a Professor of Medicine at Harvard Medical School and the Director of the Program On Regulation, Therapeutics, And Law (PORTAL), a research center based at Brigham and Women's Hospital. PORTAL brings together researchers, analysts, and trainees from medicine, law, epidemiology, and health policy to evaluate emerging issues in the regulation, use, and reimbursement of therapeutics. I am pleased to offer my strongest recommendation for Dr. Maitreyi Sahu, one of our postdoctoral fellows, for the 2026 NBER Innovation Research Boot Camp. Maitreyi is the **most quantitatively advanced postdoctoral fellow** in our research center. She combines rigorous training in health metrics with sophisticated econometrics, a rare and highly valuable combination for innovation policy research.

She is developing an ambitious research agenda on the **"Innovation–Burden Gap"** examining the alignment between pharmaceutical R&D and global disease burden. Using novel methodologies to link pipeline data to disease burden metrics, she is investigating how market and demand-side factors shape the direction of pharmaceutical innovation. She is particularly eager to engage with the work of Professors Heidi Williams and Kyle Myers at the Boot Camp.

Her potential has already been recognized through her selection to the **National Academy of Medicine Emerging Leaders Forum** in 2026 and her upcoming collaboration with EPFL in Switzerland. Maitreyi will not only benefit from this program but will multiply its impact, presenting a seminar on the methods she learns to our group at PORTAL to support the development of junior researchers.

Maitreyi is an exceptionally productive scholar and a serious, long-term contributor to innovation research. I recommend her without reservation.

Sincerely,

Aaron S. Kesselheim, M.D., J.D., M.P.H.
Professor of Medicine at Harvard Medical School