

Report on Bachelor / Master Thesis

Institute of Economic Studies, Faculty of Social Sciences, Charles University in Prague

Student:	Tomáš Pachovský
Advisor:	Petr Janský, M.Sc.
Title of the thesis:	Estimating the Extent of Inefficiencies in the Czech Health Care System

OVERALL ASSESSMENT (provided in English, Czech, or Slovak):

The aim of this thesis was to estimate the extent of inefficiencies in the Czech healthcare system – a very important and also ambitious task. Tomáš Pachovský fulfilled this objective in a very good way.

Tomáš did a very good job reviewing the existing literature. The focus was naturally on estimates of inefficiencies of foreign health care systems since the Czech evidence is rather limited. The Czech evidence is currently more anecdotal (newspapers' reports and criminal investigations) rather than systematic (providing insight in how much of the investments and expenditures in health care is actually squandered). One of Tomáš's aims was to help to change this and attempt to provide some of the latter evidence.

Given the limited public availability of data about almost any aspect of health care in the Czech Republic (and also Tomáš's limited time, since he changed his thesis topic quite late), the empirical approach in this thesis seems very appropriate and carefully applied. Tomáš replicated some of the estimates from abroad on the Czech data. The three methods are well chosen and applied.

At the same time, it is clear that further research (and maybe Tomáš's research on master thesis) should work with more detailed and more disaggregated data, hopefully from datasets that could be shared for example with some analytical sections of the Czech Ministry of Health or the health insurance companies. Obtaining as good datasets as in some of the best research papers reviewed in this thesis might turn out to be a too ambitious objective, but coming as close as possible to that would provide Tomáš or other researchers with the opportunity to obtain even more inclusive and higher quality estimates of the inefficiencies.

The biggest contribution of this thesis is in providing specific estimates of inefficiencies in the Czech health care system. This is together with the literature review a good starting point for further estimates and research, which should be developed in the future.

Tomáš Pachovský did a very good job of writing a thesis and I recommend an overall grade of **good (velmi dobře, 2)**.

SUMMARY OF POINTS AWARDED (for details, see below):

CATEGORY	POINTS
<i>Literature</i> (max. 20 points)	17
<i>Methods</i> (max. 30 points)	15
<i>Contribution</i> (max. 30 points)	20
<i>Manuscript Form</i> (max. 20 points)	19
TOTAL POINTS (max. 100 points)	71
GRADE (1 – 2 – 3 – 4)	2

NAME OF THE REFEREE: Petr Janský, M.Sc.



DATE OF EVALUATION: 17th August, 2013

Referee Signature

EXPLANATION OF CATEGORIES AND SCALE:

LITERATURE REVIEW: *The thesis demonstrates author's full understanding and command of recent literature. The author quotes relevant literature in a proper way.*

Strong Average Weak
20 10 0

METHODS: *The tools used are relevant to the research question being investigated, and adequate to the author's level of studies. The thesis topic is comprehensively analyzed.*

Strong Average Weak
30 15 0

CONTRIBUTION: *The author presents original ideas on the topic demonstrating critical thinking and ability to draw conclusions based on the knowledge of relevant theory and empirics. There is a distinct value added of the thesis.*

Strong Average Weak
30 15 0

MANUSCRIPT FORM: *The thesis is well structured. The student uses appropriate language and style, including academic format for graphs and tables. The text effectively refers to graphs and tables and disposes with a complete bibliography.*

Strong Average Weak
20 10 0

Overall grading:

TOTAL POINTS	GRADE		
81 – 100	1	= excellent	= výborně
61 – 80	2	= good	= velmi dobře
41 – 60	3	= satisfactory	= dobře
0 – 40	4	= fail	= nedoporučuji k obhajobě