

Graduate School Seminar Series



On the Measurement of Socioeconomic Inequality of Health Between Countries

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In this paper we explore the extent to which estimates of between-country inequality are sensitive to differences in population weights when using rank-dependent indices of inequality. Not surprisingly, since larger countries count more than smaller countries, changes in the former tend to have bigger effects than changes in the latter. This holds for both univariate and bivariate inequality. In the case of bivariate inequality, however, rank-dependent indices can be extremely sensitive to small changes in the variable which is used for ranking, to the point of indicating trend reversals which do not really exist. The use of bivariate rank-dependent indices may therefore produce misleading results when it comes to the measurement of between-country inequality.

Guido Erreygers obtained a PhD in Economics from the Université Paris Ouest Nanterre La Défense. He is Professor of Economics at the Department of Economics, University of Antwerp. His research focuses on socioeconomic inequality of health, history of economic thought, and linear production models. He is currently on sabbatical leave, and visiting researcher at the Centre for Health Policy.

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12.30 - 1.30 pm, Seminar Room 515

Melbourne School of Population and Global Health

Level 5, 207 Bouverie Street, Carlton

ALL WELCOME