

**Supply- vs. Demand-Side Rationing in Developing Country Health Insurance:  
Evidence from Colombia's 'Régimen Subsidiado'**

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In developing countries, medical costs associated with unexpected illness are an important source of economic risk confronting households. Health insurance expansions are therefore a public policy priority, but they also produce socially undesirable consumer incentives for wasteful medical care use. This paper studies the first major developing country effort (Colombia's *Régimen Subsidiado*) to promote efficient consumption under health insurance without sacrificing risk-protection. Using a regression discontinuity approach, we find that by improving supply-side incentives through high-powered health insurance contracting, Colombia has provided risk protection with minimal wasteful consumption – and it has also increased the use of services with positive externalities (with some small associated health gains).

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## 1. Introduction

In developing countries, the inability to smooth consumption directly reduces welfare and leads to informal risk management strategies that stifle productive activity (Paxson 1993, Townsend 1994, Morduch 1995). A leading source of economic risk that poor households face is unexpected illness (Gertler and Gruber 2002, Mohanan 2008).<sup>1</sup> The expansion of health insurance is therefore a public policy priority in many parts of the developing world (GTZ, WHO and ILO 2005). Because the value of health insurance is proportionate to medical care costs, this emphasis is particularly strong in middle income countries where expensive medical technologies are epidemiologically appropriate but living standards for many remain low.

Health insurance expansions also produce socially undesirable consumer incentives for wasteful medical care use (*ex post* moral hazard) (Arrow 1963, Pauly 1968).<sup>2</sup> The balance between risk-protection and efficient consumption has traditionally been struck through demand-side cost sharing (Newhouse et. al. 1993). This approach is nearly universal in developing countries today – even out-of-pocket payments made by the ‘uninsured’ typically cover only a fraction of total medical care costs (with tax revenue financing the difference). The alternative approach – one increasingly emphasized in wealthy countries – is health insurance contracting that better aligns the incentives of medical care providers with efficient service use (Glied 2000). Reliance on supply-side incentives circumvents the otherwise unavoidable trade-off between risk

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<sup>1</sup> For example, one recent study finds that 5% of Latin American households spend 40% or more of non-subsistence income on medical care each year (Xu et. al. 2003). As Gertler and Gruber (2002) note, there are two major costs of illness: medical care costs and reduced labor income. Health insurance addresses the former, while disability insurance addresses the latter.

<sup>2</sup> This assumes that health care prices facing consumers reflect true resource costs in the absence of health insurance. Health care prices in developing countries are generally set administratively, so this is unlikely to be true, but the direction of the error is uncertain. For a thorough treatment of administrative pricing in medical care, see Newhouse (2002). Health insurance also creates inefficient incentives for under-investment in private preventive health activities (*ex ante* moral hazard), a phenomenon that we investigate in this paper as well.

protection and efficient consumer incentives (Zeckhauser 1970) and shifts decision-making authority to clinicians with superior information about treatment efficacy.<sup>3</sup>

This paper studies the first developing country effort (to the best of our knowledge) to improve efficiency under health insurance without forgoing risk-protection.<sup>4</sup> In 1993, the Colombian government introduced the *Régimen Subsidiado* (or “Subsidized Regime,” henceforth “SR”), a variant of the classical ‘managed competition’ model of insurance (Enthoven 1978a and 1978b). Colombians passing a means test are eligible for fully-subsidized health insurance from one of multiple competing health insurers. Insurers, in turn, have new authority to form restrictive medical care networks, deny coverage for services deemed wasteful, and pay health care providers in ways that encourage higher quality and lower cost medical care. We emphasize more efficient supply-side incentives and the outright denial of inefficient services as the key innovations over reliance on demand-side cost sharing alone.<sup>5</sup> We also stress that the comparison between “uninsurance” and SR enrollment is actually a comparison of types of insurance and rationing methods: less generous insurance with exclusive reliance on demand-side cost sharing vs. more generous insurance with more efficient supply-side incentives.

To compare insurance regimes and rationing methods (i.e., those with and without the SR), we employ an empirical strategy that utilizes discrete breaks in eligibility along Colombia’s continuous poverty-targeting index (called SISBEN, or *Sistema de Identificación de*

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<sup>3</sup> Consumers value aspects of medical care distinct from health improvement, however, and supply-side instruments place the onerous burden of knowing patient preferences on health care providers (Hayek 1945).

<sup>4</sup> Importantly, promoting efficiency implies not only curtailing wasteful use, but also increasing the use of traditionally under-utilized preventive and primary care services with positive externalities. For other studies of health insurance in developing countries, see Abel-Smith (1992); Dow, Gertler, Schoeni, Strauss, and Thomas (1997); WHO (2000); WHO Commission on Macroeconomics and Health (2001); Gertler and Solon (2002); Dow, Gonzalez, Rosero-Bixby (2003); Dow and Schmeer (2003); Duflo, Banerjee, and Deaton (2004); Gakidou et. al. (2006); Pauly, Zweifel, Scheffler, Preker, and Bassett (2006); Hughes and Leethongdee (2007); Wagstaff (2007); Wagstaff, Adam and Yu, Shengchao (2007); Odonnell (2008); and Pauly, Blavin, and Meghan (2008).

<sup>5</sup> Few Colombian counties actually had more than one insurer during the years we study, and heavily regulated premiums and benefit packages (a departure from textbook managed competition) leave few margins along which plans can compete. The lack of meaningful competition has also been corroborated through interviews with stakeholders in the Colombian health care system.

*Beneficiarios*). We address concerns about widespread manipulation of eligibility (BDO and CCRP 2000, DNP 2001, 2003a, and 2003b, Fresneda 2003, Camacho and Conover 2007) by instrumenting for SR enrollment with simulated eligibility (Hahn, Todd, and Van der Klaauw 2001). To construct this instrument, we calculate SISBEN scores in household surveys not used for actual eligibility determinations. We also estimate and utilize county-specific thresholds used in practice by each of Colombia's local governments (following Chay, McEwan, and Urquiola 2005). A variety of evidence bolsters the validity of our approach.<sup>6</sup>

In general, we find evidence that the SR has succeeded in protecting poor Colombians from financial risk associated with the medical costs of unexpected illness. In particular, SR enrollment appears to have successfully reigned-in large outliers in the right-skewed distribution of medical spending (although we find no evidence of meaningful portfolio choice effects). Consistent with the ability of high-powered supply-side incentives to provide risk protection without inducing wasteful service use, we also find relatively little evidence of growth in medical care use despite less demand-side cost sharing under the SR.

An important exception is growth in the use of preventive health services associated with SR enrollment. Because many preventive services are free regardless of insurance status, we suspect this increase may be linked to high-powered supply-side incentives under the SR.<sup>7</sup> There are important positive externalities associated with preventive care use (both infectious disease externalities and pecuniary externalities for risk pool members), so this increase in preventive care is presumably efficient as well. We also find evidence of some health improvement and

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<sup>6</sup> Another intuitively appealing instrumental variables approach that we implemented ultimately lacked a sufficiently strong first stage. Specifically, we attempted to utilize a geographic discontinuity in SR eligibility that occurs (in principle) along sharply-defined administrative boundaries (*cabecera* boundaries) within each Colombian county.

<sup>7</sup> Interviews with stakeholders in the Colombian health care system strongly reaffirm the link between high-powered supply-side incentives and efforts to restrict wasteful consumption. Respondents do not report perceiving a link between supply-side incentives and growth in preventive service use (although SR plans do call enrollees to remind them about preventive care medical appointments).

little evidence of other behavioral distortions (either *ex ante* moral hazard or distortions related to obtaining coverage). We conclude by noting that the full potential of high-powered supply-side incentives in health insurance contracting has not been realized in Colombia and that such incentives offer additional promise for welfare improvement.

## **2. Colombia's Subsidized Health Insurance Regime for the Poor**

### 2.1 Overview

Under Law 100 in 1993, Colombia introduced the *Régimen Subsidiado* (or SR), a novel form of publicly-financed health insurance for the poor (Gwatkin et al. 2005, Escobar 2005). Primarily through SR expansion, formal health insurance coverage in Colombia grew from 20% of the population in 1993 to 80% in 2007 (CENDEX 2008). The SR is essentially organized as a system of 'managed competition' (Enthoven 1978a and 1978b). Beneficiaries receive full public subsidies to purchase health insurance from competing public and private health insurance plans. These subsidies are financed by a combination of public resources including payroll taxes and national and local general revenue. These resources are transferred to county governments, which in turn are responsible for eligibility determination, enrollment, and contracting with health plans.

Health plans charge government-regulated premiums and offer a standardized package of benefits (see Appendix 1 for the details of these benefits).<sup>8</sup> Participating health plans also act as group purchasers of health services for their enrollees by contracting with a network of health facilities and clinicians (Section 2.4 describes incentives embedded in these contracts). Because premiums and benefit packages are standardized by law (unlike the classical 'managed

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<sup>8</sup> The benefits package of the SR (*Plan Obligatorio de Salud Subsidiado*) emphasizes coverage for primary and basic outpatient services, drugs, and some catastrophic care. There is limited coverage for specialist services, and there are substantial gaps in coverage for hospital care.

competition' model), health plans compete for enrollees on the margins of provider networks and service quality. In practice, very few cities had more than one insurer during the years that we study.

## 2.2 Eligibility for the SR

Eligibility for the SR is determined using a poverty-targeting index called SISBEN (or *Sistema de Identificación de Beneficiarios*). The original SISBEN index consisted of fourteen components measuring different aspects of household well-being (such as housing material, access to public utilities, ownership of durable assets, demographic composition, educational attainment, and labor force participation – for a complete description, see Appendix 2).<sup>9</sup> On each dimension, households are classified according to mutually exclusive, collectively exhaustive categories with varying weights assigned to each category; these weights vary between urban and rural areas. A household's SISBEN score is then calculated by summing points across components. Possible scores range from 0 to 100 (with 0 being the most impoverished) and are divided into six strata. Households scoring in SISBEN strata 1 and 2 (the lowest strata) are eligible for the SR (below 48 in urban areas, below 31 in rural areas).<sup>10</sup>

## 2.3 Eligibility and Enrollment in Practice

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<sup>9</sup> Eligibility also varies within households because certain demographic groups (including pregnant women and young children) are prioritized for enrollment.

<sup>10</sup> SISBEN eligibility shifts abruptly at each county's *cabecera* boundary, an administrative demarcation formally distinguishing urban and rural parts of each county and loosely corresponding to the fringe of public utility infrastructure. Distinct urban and rural SISBEN scales are applied to households on corresponding sides of the boundary, differing both in component parts and in the weighting of response categories for each component. We implemented a research design exploiting these urban/rural index differences, but inconsistent application of the rural index and data limitations prevent us from drawing meaningful conclusions from it. In this paper we therefore focus on urban eligibility.

Although eligibility for the SR increases the likelihood of enrollment, neither one necessarily implies the other for at least three reasons: misclassification or manipulation of SISBEN scores, shortfalls in local government revenue, and enrollment that preceded SISBEN enumeration.<sup>11</sup>

First, both local governments and households have incentives to manipulate SISBEN scores. Local governments receive fixed transfers from the national government for each resident they enroll, creating incentives to maximize enrollment. The selective enrollment of key constituents can also provide political benefits (Camacho and Conover 2007). Households prefer enrollment over “uninsurance” as well because co-insurance rates are lower for SR beneficiaries than for those lacking formal insurance. Consistent with both types of incentives, there is evidence of considerable SISBEN score manipulation between 1997 and 2003 (Camacho and Conover 2007).<sup>12</sup>

Second, most local governments lack sufficient revenue to finance the enrollment of all eligible residents. According to law, those with lower SISBEN scores and those belonging to certain targeted groups (such as children under five and pregnant women) are therefore prioritized for enrollment.<sup>13</sup> This means that many counties use *de facto* eligibility thresholds that fall below the uniform national threshold.

Third, some counties began enrolling residents in the SR before all of their residents had been classified using SISBEN. These counties instead used other means-test criteria such as

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<sup>11</sup> Administrative mistakes in the enrollment process are also important.

<sup>12</sup> Using results from the 2005 population census, the Colombian newspaper *El Tiempo* reports that there are more SR enrollees than residents in some counties (*El Tiempo*, October 26, 2006). Camacho and Conover (2007) show that the distribution of official SISBEN scores exhibits both large leftward shifts in density over time and the formation of a mass point just to the left of the national eligibility threshold in urban areas. Neither are present in Colombian household surveys. The former suggests misrepresentation by households, while the latter suggests misrepresentation by enumerators or officials.

<sup>13</sup> The laws formalizing this prioritization are *Acuerdos 244 y 253 del Consejo Nacional de Seguridad Social en Salud*. This prioritization also means that although SISBEN scores are calculated at the level of family “nucleus,” individuals within families can vary in enrolment status; we observe this in our household survey data.

residents' *estrato*, an alternative poverty measure used to establish electricity prices paid by local households.

In general, these practical considerations have two broad implications for our empirical analyses. One is the necessity of an empirical strategy that addresses manipulation of official SR eligibility and enrollment. Section 3.2 describes our instrumental variables approach of simulating eligibility with household data not used for official eligibility decisions and then instrumenting for enrollment using simulated eligibility. The other is that our first stage regressions (of enrollment on predicted eligibility, as explained in Section 3.2) will be weaker than if eligibility mapped directly onto enrollment (which we address by estimating and utilizing county-specific eligibility thresholds and by controlling for other criteria like *estrato* used for SR enrollment).

#### 2.4 Supply-Side Incentives and Contracting for More Efficient Medical Care Use

We emphasize insurers' ability to contract with health care providers (hospitals and medical groups) for more efficient service use as a key innovation of the SR.<sup>14</sup> Insurers receive premiums (flat payments per enrollee per unit time) for all covered services, giving them strong incentives to constrain total spending. These incentives are transmitted to provider organizations using high-powered supply-side incentives and the authority to deny coverage for services considered inefficient.<sup>15</sup>

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<sup>14</sup> There is little competition among insurers; regulation prevents competition on the basis of premiums or benefits, and many local markets are served by only one insurer.

<sup>15</sup> Provider organizations, in turn, must transmit the incentives they face to individual clinicians whom they employ. Our interviews with stakeholders in the Colombian health care system suggest that organizations solve this agency problem through non-financial rather than payment-based incentives (systematic data on organizational incentives and clinician contracts is unavailable).



Specifically, there are two types of contracts between insurers and provider organizations under the SR: capitated primary care contracts and fee-for-service specialty care contracts. For primary care, insurers pay organizations fixed amounts per month for all services used by enrollees (“capitation”). These contracts create strong incentives for organizations to constrain total spending on primary care, which can be accomplished in a variety of ways. One way is constraining the provision of services. This strategy may improve welfare by limiting the use of wasteful care, but it could also inefficiently reduce the supply of traditionally under-utilized services as well. Another possible way to constrain spending is to promote the use of preventive services (averting the use of some more costly curative care – although not all prevention is cost-saving). This approach more unambiguously improves efficiency given that preventive care often generates positive externalities (both pecuniary and infectious disease-related).

For specialty care, insurers pay provider organizations a pre-determined fee for each covered service that they supply (i.e., on a “fee-for-service” basis). These contracts encourage the provision of all reimbursable services (both efficient and inefficient). However, SR insurers also have the authority to deny coverage on a case-by-case basis for inefficient specialty care, allowing them to limit (presumably) wasteful service use and improving welfare.<sup>16</sup>

### **3. Data and Empirical Strategy**

#### 3.1 Data

Our empirical approach requires household survey data containing three types of information: (1) enrollment in the SR, (2) components of the SISBEN index (enabling us to

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<sup>16</sup> The ability to deny coverage for inefficient services (termed “utilization review”) can reduce wasteful services but does nothing to improve efficiency by promoting under-utilized health services.

simulate SR eligibility), and (3) potential behavioral responses and outcomes of interest (both welfare-improving and distortionary). There are two candidate Colombian household surveys that meet these criteria: the *Encuestas de Calidad de Vida* (ECV) and the Demographic and Health Surveys (DHS).<sup>17</sup> The ECVs are nationally-representative household surveys designed to measure socio-economic well-being and “quality of life,” broadly defined. The DHS data reports detailed fertility, health, and socio-economic information for nationally-representative samples of fertile age women (defined as ages 15-49) and their households. Because the *de facto* implementation of the SR occurred in 1996/1997, we use the 2003 ECV and the 2005 DHS for our analyses.<sup>18</sup> Table 1 shows descriptive statistics by type of behavior/outcome for the full samples as well as those with and without SR coverage.

As our empirical strategy requires, we calculate household-level SISBEN scores to simulate SR eligibility because simulated eligibility should not reflect misrepresentation of household characteristics as official SISBEN scores do (Camacho and Conover 2007). However, not all household surveys contain all necessary components of the SISBEN index. Appendix 2 provides a complete description of the SISBEN components present in each survey as well as our ordered-probit procedures for imputing values for a small number of missing components.<sup>19</sup>

### 3.2 Empirical Strategy

#### *Instrumenting for Enrollment with Simulated Eligibility*

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<sup>17</sup> Official SISBEN classification data (used for eligibility determination) do not contain outcomes of interest and are unattractive for our purposes given manipulation evidence of manipulation (Camacho and Conover 2007).

<sup>18</sup> There was also a Colombian DHS survey conducted in 2000. Our results when pooling the 2000 and 2005 DHS are generally comparable (available upon request), but because the 2000 wave contains many fewer outcomes of interest than the 2005 wave, so we choose not to emphasize results from the pooled sample. We do not use the 1997 wave of the ECV because SR enrollment was still very low in that year.

<sup>19</sup> In theory, SISBEN scores should be calculated at the family (or “nucleus”) level. However, we treat entire households as families given reports that SISBEN enumerators adopted this definition in practice due to difficulties in conforming to the technical definition.

In principle, the SISBEN index’s SR eligibility threshold (at score 48 in urban areas) can be used to study behavioral responses associated with SR enrollment. This discontinuity induces an abrupt shift in eligibility (and enrollment) along otherwise smooth distributions of household characteristics; coincident shifts in behaviors and outcomes can reasonably be linked to the program. However, selection into eligibility (and enrollment) according to unobserved household characteristics as discussed in Section 2.3 is likely to bias the estimates of interest (McCrary 2008).

To circumvent this difficulty, we employ an instrumental variables strategy closely resembling one proposed by Hahn, Todd, and Van der Klaauw (2001). Conceptually, we seek to reconstruct ‘true’ SISBEN scores when both official SISBEN scores and observed SR enrollment reflect manipulation. To do so, we calculate SISBEN scores for each household in the ECV and DHS data and then use calculated scores to instrument for SR enrollment (for prominent examples of simulated instruments, see Currie and Gruber (1996), and Cutler and Gruber (1996), and Hoxby (2001)).<sup>20</sup> A virtue of this approach is that neither ECV nor DHS data is used for eligibility determinations.

Using urban households with simulated SISBEN scores near the urban eligibility threshold,<sup>21</sup> we could in principle begin by estimating the following first-stage equation for individuals  $i$  in household  $h$ :

$$(1) \quad enroll_{ih} = \alpha + \gamma below_h + \beta SISBEN_h + \sum_k \delta_k estrato_{hk} + \varepsilon_{ih},$$

where  $enroll$  is an indicator for whether or not household  $i$  is enrolled in the SR,  $below$  is an indicator for simulated SISBEN score lying below the eligibility threshold,  $SISBEN$  is simulated

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<sup>20</sup> We emphasize “old” SISBEN scores – those calculated using the official scale in effect between the beginning of the SR and 2003. Enrollees eligible only under the old scale were not disenrolled with the introduction of the “new scale,” and the old (but not the new) eligibility discontinuity is evident in the 2005 DHS.

<sup>21</sup> We do not use rural households to examine the rural threshold between SISBEN strata 2 and 3 because of inconsistent application of the rural scale.

SISBEN score, and *estrato* is a dummy variable for an *estrato* category. Using Two-Stage Least Squares (2SLS), we could then estimate the following second-stage equation:

$$(2) \quad outcome_{ih} = \varphi + \lambda enroll_h + \theta SISBEN_h + \sum_k \pi_k estrato_{hk} + \xi_{ih},$$

instrumenting for *enroll* with *below*. The relationship between behavioral outcomes of interest (*outcome*) and SR enrollment would then be captured by estimates of the parameter  $\lambda$ .

### *Estimating County-Specific Eligibility Thresholds*

As described in Section 2.3, financial shortfalls led many Colombian counties to use SR eligibility thresholds at SISBEN scores below the official national threshold.<sup>22</sup> The implication of this for estimating equations (1) and (2) using the official threshold is that our first stage relationship will be weaker than necessary, compounding limitations to first stage strength posed by the other issues raised in Section 2.3. We therefore use county-specific eligibility thresholds. In addition to improving the strength of our first stage, this approach offers another key benefit: because some local governments use the official national threshold for other public benefits, changes in outcomes observed at county thresholds will not reflect behavioral responses to other public programs. (Section 4.6 shows that participation in other public programs is not discontinuous at county-specific thresholds.)

Exact county-specific eligibility thresholds are unknown, so we estimate them following Chay, McEwan, and Urquiola (2005). Specifically, using our full samples, we establish county-specific breaks in SR eligibility at the SISBEN score that maximize the goodness-of-fit of a model of SR enrollment as a function of a dichotomous indicator for whether or not a

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<sup>22</sup> Bogotá adopted a threshold above the uniform national one, first using SISBEN score 50 and later SISBEN score 52.

household’s score falls below the threshold.<sup>23</sup> This approach establishes thresholds that maximize the percentage of individuals correctly classified as eligible in each county.

We then use county-specific thresholds to re-code the variable *below* for each individual *i* in households *h* and Colombian counties *c* and estimate the following first stage equation:

$$(3) \quad enroll_{ihc} = \alpha + \gamma below_{hc} + \beta SISBEN_h + \varphi SISBEN\_diff_{hc} + \sum_k \delta_k estrato_{hk} + \mu_c + \varepsilon_{ihc},$$

where *below* is now an indicator for whether or not individual *i*’s simulated SISBEN score falls below the eligibility threshold in the individual’s county *c*, *SISBEN\_diff* is the difference between an individual’s simulated SISBEN score and the estimated eligibility threshold in the individual’s county,  $\mu_c$  represents county fixed effects (allowing us to focus on within-county variation in simulated eligibility across county-specific thresholds), and all other variables are defined as in equation (1). To adhere transparently to the identifying assumption that individuals with simulated SISBEN scores very near the threshold are comparable with the exception of their eligibility, we conservatively focus on individuals whose calculated scores lie within two index points of the county-specific cutoff (our main estimates persist across various bandwidths, as shown in Section 4.6).

Figure 1 uses ECV and DHS data to show SR enrollment and “uninsurance” by simulated SISBEN score relative to county-specific eligibility thresholds. Each county’s threshold is normalized to zero, and the figure then shows means and 95% confidence intervals for each SISBEN index integer relative to the threshold as well as non-parametric kernel density plots on either side. The figure illustrates large discrete increases in the probability of enrollment and

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<sup>23</sup> We also constrain estimated thresholds to fall below the uniform national threshold (given that our measure of SR enrollment reflects both true eligibility and manipulation), and we exclude individuals from a few counties using two criteria related to having very few observations in some counties. One is having the first percentile in the SISBEN score distribution lie above the national threshold or the 99<sup>th</sup> percentile score lie below the national threshold. The other is having an estimated threshold with those below it having relatively lower SR enrollment rates than those above it. The total number of observations excluded for these reasons is minor (3.8% of the sample in the ECV data and 5% of the sample in the DHS data).

concomitant decreases in the probability of uninsurance at the threshold ranging between 25 to 30 percentage points.

Using our re-coded variable *below* to instrument for *enroll*, we then estimate the following equation by 2SLS:

$$(4) \quad outcome_{ihc} = \varphi + \lambda enroll_{hc} + \theta SISBEN_h + \psi SISBEN\_diff_{hc} + \sum_k \pi_k estrato_{hk} + \mu_c + \zeta_{ihc},$$

where the estimate of interest is the estimate of  $\lambda$ . Section 4.6 shows that our results are not sensitive to alternative ways of conditioning on *SISBEN* and *SISBEN\_diff* (such as higher-order *SISBEN* score polynomials).<sup>24</sup>

#### 4. Results

In this section we present results by type of behavioral response to the SR. We begin by investigating the effectiveness of health insurance in accomplishing its primary objectives: protecting households against financial risk (and possibly changing the composition of household spending and assets). Next, we examine changes in medical care use (including changes by service type) under the SR. We then consider how changes in health service use may have influenced health outcomes (noting that health improvement can be inefficient if linked to *ex post* moral hazard). To investigate other possible behavioral distortions, we also examine changes in private health investments associated with SR enrollment (*ex ante* moral hazard) as well as distortions related to obtaining coverage. Finally we present evidence on the validity of our empirical strategy.

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<sup>24</sup> We estimate equations 3 and 4 using linear models; marginal probabilities computed using bivariate probit models yield similar results to the 2SLS estimates for dichotomous outcomes examined throughout the paper. We calculate our standard errors by relaxing the assumption that disturbance terms are independent and identically-distributed within households, the level at which the treatment of interest (eligibility based on the *SISBEN* index) is assigned.

#### 4.1 Protection against the Medical Costs of Unexpected Illness and Portfolio Choice

A primary appeal of the SR is its potential to improve efficiency through supply-side incentives without sacrificing risk-protection. We therefore begin by examining the relationship between SR enrollment and both level and variability of out-of-pocket medical spending. To construct our variability measure, we first calculate mean individual spending separately among those enrolled and those not enrolled in the SR. For each individual, we then measure the difference between individual spending and the mean among those with the same enrollment status. Our variability measure is then the absolute value of this difference. We analyze both outpatient and inpatient spending (within the past twelve months) but emphasize the latter because of idiosyncrasies in how outpatient spending is reported.<sup>25</sup>

We first graphically examine shifts in the distribution of medical spending associated with simulated eligibility for the SR. Panel A of Figure 2 shows the distribution of outpatient medical spending in the preceding month separately for those falling above and those falling below county-specific thresholds (using our sample of those within two index points of the cutoff). Both distributions are heavily right-skewed, but mass in the distribution for those who are eligible (those below the threshold) falls to the left of the distribution for those who are ineligible. Panel B shows the difference between the two distributions (density among those below the threshold minus density among those above the threshold at every level of spending), confirming this result. Figure 3 then shows the same distributions for inpatient spending in the past year; there is again more mass at greater spending values (between 300,000 and 400,000 pesos in particular) among the ineligible. Both figures suggest that SR eligibility is associated with reductions in right-tail medical spending – a pattern consistent with risk protection.

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<sup>25</sup> The ECV 2003 question about outpatient spending in the preceding 30 days excludes outpatient costs associated with illness ultimately leading to hospitalization; the inpatient expenditure question asks about all inpatient spending in the past 12 months.

The first six columns of Table 2 Panel A then present econometric results obtained by estimating equations (3) and (4) for level and variability of medical spending by type. The first row presents IV estimates for SR enrollment, and the second row reports intent-to-treat (ITT) estimates for simulated SR eligibility (estimates for a dummy variable coding whether or not an individual falls below the eligibility threshold from regressions of outcomes on this dummy and the other covariates shown in equation 4). The first column suggests that SR enrollment lowers mean inpatient spending by about 60,000 pesos, a 31% reduction among those using any inpatient services (note that as shown in Table 3, there is no selection into inpatient service use associated with SR enrollment). Perhaps more importantly, consistent with insurance through the SR reigning-in large outliers in the right-skewed distribution of medical spending, variability of inpatient spending fell by roughly 62,000 pesos, a reduction of 33%.<sup>26</sup> (Despite suggestive evidence in Figure 2, our estimates for level and variability of outpatient spending are statistically insignificant.) To further probe the association between SR enrollment and protection against catastrophic inpatient costs, columns 7 through 9 show estimates obtained by using dichotomous indicators for inpatient spending exceeding 600,000, 900,000, and 1,200,000 pesos as dependent variables. The resulting estimates suggest that outlier inpatient spending falls by 3%, 2%, and 2% (respectively) with SR enrollment. Appendix 3 Figure 1 graphically shows all outcomes examined in Panel A across county-specific eligibility thresholds (essentially, graphical versions of our intent-to-treat analyses).

Overall, the results shown in Panel A of Table 2 suggest that SR enrollment is associated with meaningful risk protection benefits. By reducing household exposure to medical care costs associated with unpredictable illness, SR enrollment could also produce meaningful changes in

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<sup>26</sup> Using the estimates in Panel A of Table 2 and mean inpatient spending and mean inpatient variability among those in our bandwidth of 2 sample enrolled in the SR,  $60,371/194,858 \approx 0.31$  and  $62,109/185,424 \approx 0.34$ .



the composition of household assets, human capital investments, and household consumption (i.e., portfolio choice effects). Specifically, it may increase investments not previously undertaken because of costly informal risk-management activities (such as precautionary saving). Panel B of Table 2 presents estimates for durable goods not used to construct the SISBEN index (cars and radios) as well as household education and consumption expenditures. In general, it suggests that SR enrollment is not associated with discernable portfolio choice effects.

#### 4.2 Medical Care Use

If the SR has effectively provided risk-protection, the next question is whether or not it has been able to do so without inducing wasteful consumption of medical services.<sup>27</sup> To investigate how service use has changed with SR enrollment, Table 3 reports estimates for different types of medical care use obtained from equations (3) and (4) (and Appendix 3 Figure 2 shows graphical versions of the intent-to-treat analyses). In general, it suggests a substantial increase in the use of preventive health care services. SR enrollment is associated with a 29 percentage point increase in the probability of a preventive doctor visit in the past year (a 50% increase). Additionally, children enrolled in the SR had 1.24 more growth-monitoring and well-care visits in the past year than their “uninsured” peers (nearly doubling the number of visits). Alternatively, we find no evidence of increases in the use of costly curative services (in-patient care, specialty care for chronic diseases, or many other curative services, for example). The

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<sup>27</sup> Although the welfare implications of increased health service use under insurance are theoretically ambiguous, policymakers often view health insurance expansions as a desirable means of increasing the use of medical care.

single exception is that we estimate a 14 percentage point increase in the probability of having visited a physician in the past 30 days because of a health problem.<sup>28</sup>

There are two general points about these medical care use estimates that are worth highlighting. One is that because most preventive medical care is free for Colombians regardless of insurance status (well child care and growth development monitoring, for example), these increases must necessarily reflect high-powered supply-side incentives under the SR (because of capitated primary care payments, for example) rather than lower demand-side cost sharing.

The other is that the increase in medical care consumption under the SR is likely to improve welfare. Preventive health care has important positive externalities – not only because it reduces rates of infectious disease transmission, but also because it can reduce costly curative care costs borne by others through risk pools. Preventive services are therefore generally under-used, so we interpret this increase as efficient. Although we generally find no increase in costly curative services, the exception we find for physician visits has ambiguous welfare consequences. An increase in curative medical care can be decomposed into income and substitution effects; only the latter reflects *ex post* moral hazard and is therefore inefficient (Cutler 2002). Although we are unable to separate these effects, we suspect the income effect to be large in developing countries,<sup>29</sup> and primary care services are likely to be under-used for reasons similar to those discussed for preventive care.

### 4.3 Health Outcomes

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<sup>28</sup> The dependent variable is defined to be 0 for those not having a health problem; conditioning on illness is undesirable because the SR can influence health (we present some evidence of this in Section 4.3).

<sup>29</sup> See also Besley (1988), Ma and Riordan (2002), and Vera-Hernandez (2003) on the importance of income effects in determining the optimal level of health care use.

As with medical care use, the net welfare implications of health improvement under insurance are also theoretically ambiguous (although health improvement assumes a central role in policy discussions about health insurance) (Levy and Meltzer 2004). Table 4 shows estimates of  $\lambda$  for a range of health outcomes obtained from equations (3) and (4). For infants and young children there is no evidence of improvement across a variety of anthropometric measures (birth weight; child weight; child height; child BMI). However, SR enrollment is associated with reductions in the number of days absent from usual activities due to illness in the past month for both children and adults (1.3 days and 0.42 days, respectively) as well as a 35 percentage point reduction in the self-reported incidence of cough, fever, or diarrhea among children in the preceding two weeks.<sup>30</sup> Appendix 3 Figure 3 shows graphical versions of the intent-to-treat analyses for health outcomes.

Overall, Table 4 provides some tentative evidence of health improvement associated with SR enrollment (although the importance of this improvement uncertain). However, given the socially desirable increases in preventive care and the general absence of wasteful growth in the use of other services, the health improvement that we estimate is likely to be efficient.

#### 4.4 *Ex Ante* Moral Hazard and Eligibility-Related Behavioral Distortions

Protection from financial risk associated with unexpected illness weakens private incentives for costly health protection (*ex ante* moral hazard) (Pauly 1968). Because we find evidence of greater risk protection, we investigate how protective private health behaviors not directly linked to medical care change with SR enrollment.<sup>31</sup> As Table 5 and Figure 4 of

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<sup>30</sup> Table 5 also shows a reduction in self-reported health qualifying as “excellent” (but no change in other subjective self-assessed categories), presumably reflecting greater contact with clinicians.

<sup>31</sup> More generally, private health behaviors and public health services could theoretically be either complements or substitutes for publicly provided health services. While reductions in the price of medical care may raise the return

Appendix 3 show, however, we find no change in handwashing, breastfeeding, or maternal investments in fetal health (alcohol, drug, or tobacco use during pregnancy; or prenatal dietary supplementation with iron, calcium, or folic acid), suggesting little *ex ante* moral hazard associated with SR enrollment.

Manipulation of official SISBEN scores suggests that Colombians perceive benefits of SR enrollment, so we also investigate the possibility of behavioral distortions to increase the likelihood of SR eligibility or enrollment. Potential distortions include avoidance of formal sector employment (which requires enrollment in Colombia’s employment-based *Regimen Contributivo* instead and precludes SR participation) and distortions related to prioritization for SR enrollment conditional on being classified as eligible (principally having infants or young children or being a single mother).<sup>32</sup>

To investigate the possibility of these distortions, Table 5 presents intent-to-treat (ITT) estimates obtained by estimating equation (3) with dichotomous indicators for *Regimen Contributivo* enrollment, other forms of health insurance (those for the military, police officers, and certain industrial groups like oil industry workers, for example), and “uninsurance” as dependent variables. The estimates for *Regimen Contributivo* and other insurance are not statistically meaningful, suggesting that the SR does not “crowd-out” other forms of insurance (and that our comparisons throughout the paper are between SR enrollees and the “uninsured”). We also re-estimate equations (3) and (4) for pregnancy, contraceptive use, and marital status but find no meaningful relationship between them and SR enrollment. Taken together, there is no clear evidence of eligibility-related behavioral distortions linked to the SR. An important

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to private health investments given competing risks, cheaper health services could also instead ‘crowd-out’ costly private health behaviors (Dow, Holmes, Philipson, and Sala-i-Martin 1999, Murphy and Topel 2003).

<sup>32</sup> Formal sector employees are mandated to enroll in an employment-based health insurance system called *Regimen Contributivo*. This mandate holds even for individuals with SISBEN scores falling below the SISBEN eligibility threshold for the SR.

implication of this finding is that manipulation of SR eligibility is likely to be due exclusively to misreporting rather than to actual behavior change.

#### 4.6 Balance across Discontinuities and Robustness

The results presented in Sections 4.1 through 4.5 require that absent the SR, eligible and ineligible individuals (according to our simulated SISBEN scores) in the vicinity of each county's threshold are comparable. To probe this assumption further, Table 6 first presents results obtained by estimating equations (3) and (4) for individual characteristics that could not reasonably change in response to SR enrollment (such as age or educational attainment for adults). Consistent with our assumption, we generally find no estimates that are meaningfully different from zero.<sup>33</sup>

Next, we consider whether or not our SR enrollment estimates might be attributable to participation in other public programs for which some counties also use the SISBEN index. Before investigating this possibility directly, we first note that its veracity is doubtful because these programs use the uniform national eligibility threshold, while we estimate and utilize *de facto* county-specific thresholds for the SR – many of which fall below the uniform national threshold. To confirm this, we re-estimate equations (3) and (4) using a dichotomous indicator for participation in these other programs as the dependent variable in equation (4). We analyze participation in a wide range of publicly financed programs, including job training, home mortgage subsidies, education vouchers, *Hogares Comunitarios* (a large child care program), and services provided by the *Instituto Colombiano de Bienestar Familiar* (the largest social welfare

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<sup>33</sup> The single exception is whether or not the household head completed elementary education at the 10% level (and in the 2003 ECV, but not the 2005 DHS) and if anything would suggest our results to be slight underestimates.

agency in Colombia).<sup>34</sup> Table 6 presents these results, suggesting that participation in other programs is balanced across county-specific SR eligibility thresholds.

Finally, to investigate the robustness of our results, we estimate a variety of alternative forms of our main estimating equations. Specifically, we re-estimate equations (3) and (4) using SISBEN score bandwidths ranging between two and four, and at each bandwidth we estimate specifications that control for higher order polynomials of SISBEN scores (including squared, cubic, and fourth power terms) and that do not include county fixed effects (allowing us to also make cross-county comparisons among individuals with identical simulated SISBEN scores but that fall on opposite sides of county-specific eligibility thresholds). As Appendix 4 Tables A1-A4 suggest, our results are generally robust (with some variation in precision) across these alternative bandwidths and specifications.

## 5. Conclusion

This paper presents new evidence that the SR has succeeded in protecting the poor from financial risk due to unanticipated medical care spending – and in doing so, it has provided commensurate consumption smoothing benefits as well. Importantly, the introduction of high-powered supply-side incentives embedded in new forms of health insurance contracting appears to have circumvented the otherwise inevitable trade-off between risk protection and efficient consumer incentives – a tension inherent in exclusive reliance on demand-side cost sharing (Zeckhauser 1970). Specifically, we find little evidence that the SR induces wasteful medical care use despite less demand-side cost sharing than required for “uninsured.” We also show that

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<sup>34</sup> The program *Empleo en Acción* (a workfare program active in 2003 but abolished in 2004) is the only public program of which we are aware that used the uniform national SISBEN eligibility threshold for which the 2003 ECV does not contain data. Participation in the program was low (only 7.4% of those in SISBEN strata 1 or 2) and provided no benefits directly related to health (it paid 60% of the minimum wage to individuals who worked on official program projects an average of at least 30 hours per week for 2.4 months) (IFS-SEI-Econometria 2005).

the SR is associated with large increases in preventive health service use. Given the positive externalities generated by the use of preventive care, this increase in preventive services can reasonably be interpreted as efficient.

We conclude by observing that Colombia has yet to realize the full welfare-improving potential of higher-powered supply-side incentives in health insurance contracting. A variety of political concessions followed the creation of the SR – including exemptions from the end of government subsidies as well as requirements that insurers contract with public facilities for a minimum share of the services that they finance. These concessions may have limited the ability of health plans to pay medical care providers in ways that encourage better quality and lower cost services.

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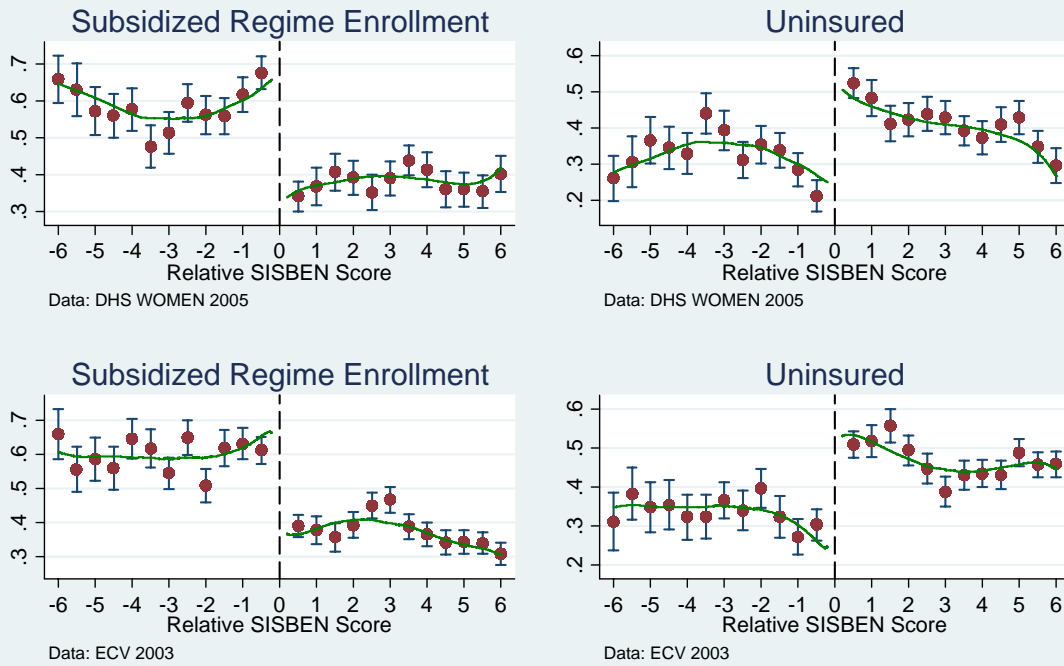


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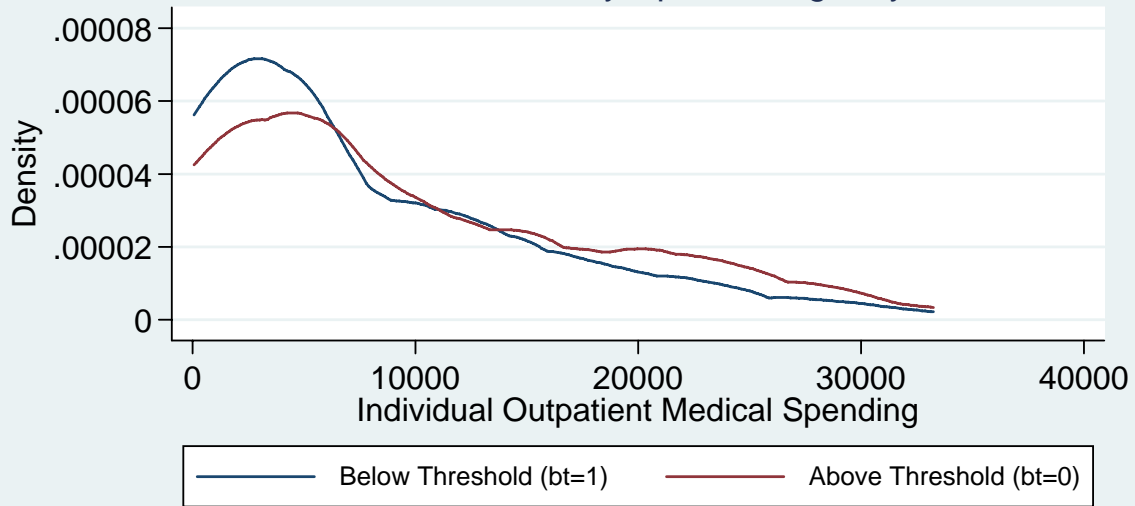
Figure 1: Subsidized Regime Enrollment and 'Uninsurance' across SISBEN Eligibility Thresholds



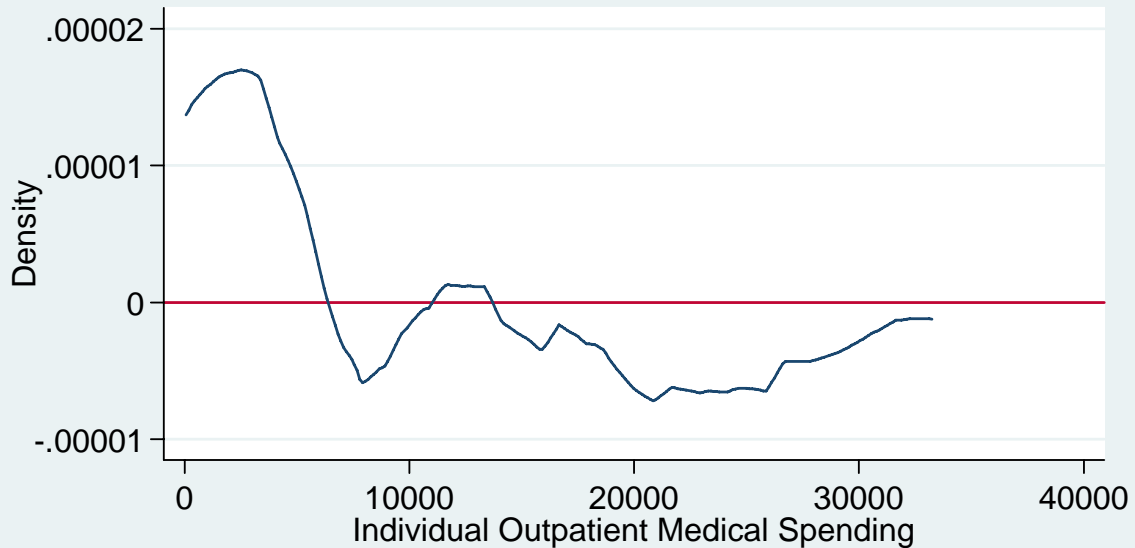
Individual-level “urban” data for those within two SISBEN index points of county-specific eligibility thresholds from the 2003 ECV and 2005 DHS. Each point (and corresponding 95% confidence interval bars) represents means for individuals grouped into half-integer bins relative to county-specific thresholds. Non-parametric kernel density plots also fitted separately using individuals on either side of county-specific thresholds.

## Figure 2

Panel A: Individual Outpatient Medical Spending Above and Below the Threshold among Those within Two Points of County-Specific Eligibility Thresholds



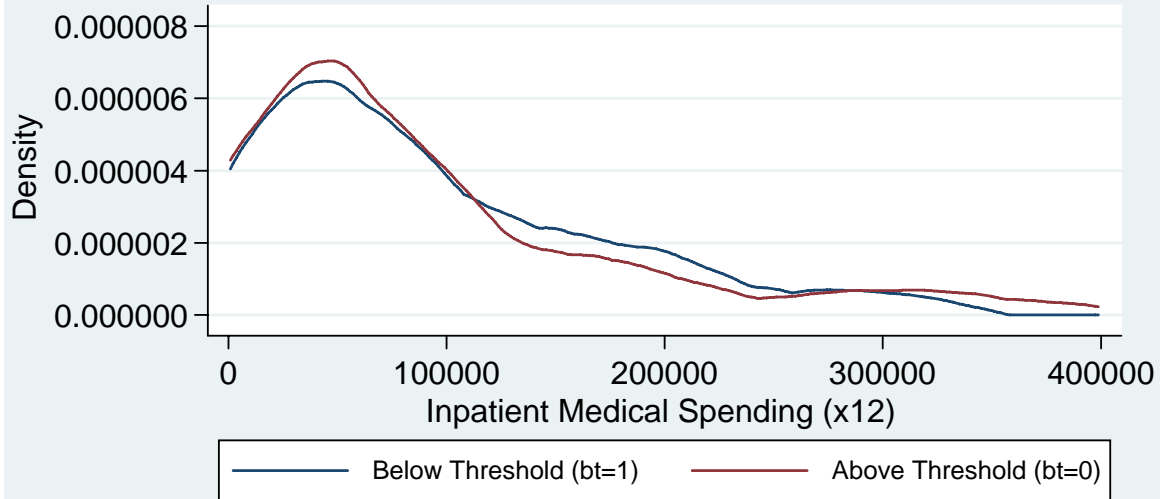
Panel B: The Difference in Individual Outpatient Medical Spending between Those Above and Below the Threshold



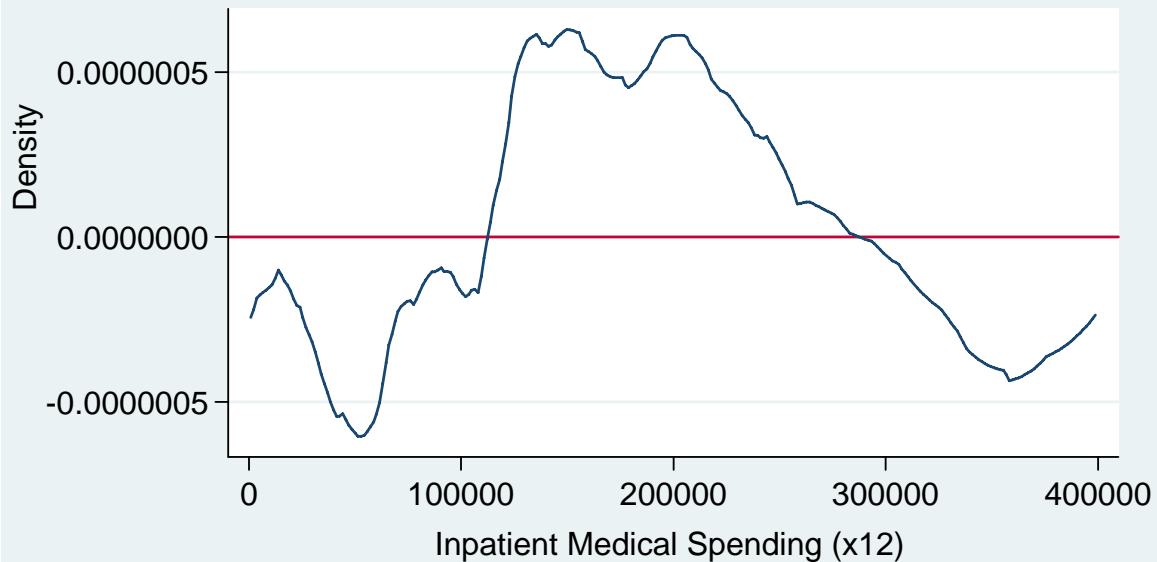
Individual-level “urban” data for those within two SISBEN index points of county-specific eligibility thresholds from the 2003 ECV. The top panel shows non-parametric kernel density plots fitted separately using individuals on either side of county-specific thresholds; the bottom panel shows the difference between the two plots.

# Figure 3

Panel A: Individual Inpatient Medical Spending Above and Below the Threshold among Those within Two Points of County-Specific Eligibility Thresholds



Panel B: The Difference in Individual Inpatient Medical Spending between Those Above and Below the Threshold



Individual-level “urban” data for those within two SISBEN index points of county-specific eligibility thresholds from the 2003 ECV. The top panel shows non-parametric kernel density plots fitted separately using individuals on either side of county-specific thresholds; the bottom panel shows the difference between the two plots.

TABLE 1:  
DESCRIPTIVE STATISTICS

Variable:	Total			Not Enrolled in the Subsidized Regime			Enrolled in the Subsidized Regime			Data Source
	Mean	SD	N	Mean	SD	N	Mean	SD	N	
<b>Risk Protection, Consumption Smoothing, and Portfolio Choice</b>										
Variability of Individual Inpatient Medical Spending	20,167	127,861	4,211	20,983	126,764	2,248	19,234	129,133	1,963	ECV
Variability of Individual Outpatient Medical Spending	3,971	22,209	4,218	4,698	19,615	2,249	3,140	24,822	1,969	ECV
Variability of Out-of-Pocket Spending for Chronic Disease Medication	9,420	26,840	4,222	7,593	13,966	2,253	11,510	36,245	1,969	ECV
Individual Inpatient Medical Spending	10,577	129,443	4,211	10,971	128,490	2,248	10,125	130,558	1,963	ECV
Individual Outpatient Medical Spending	2,118	22,565	4,218	2,513	20,170	2,249	1,666	25,019	1,969	ECV
Out-of-Pocket Spending for Chronic Disease Medication	5,584	28,468	4,222	4,526	15,897	2,253	6,794	38,030	1,969	ECV
Individual Education Spending	7,588	20,279	3,567	7,501	23,234	1,874	7,684	16,407	1,693	ECV
Household Education Spending	35,145	48,468	4,222	34,089	52,464	2,253	36,352	43,428	1,969	ECV
Total Spending on Food	274,881	217,392	4,096	279,128	201,735	2,171	270,091	233,756	1,925	ECV
Total Monthly Expenditure	654,552	599,861	966	688,065	716,382	479	621,590	455,559	487	ECV
Individual Inpatient Medical Spending >= 600,000	0.004	0.06	4,211	0.004	0.06	2,248	0.004	0.06	1,963	ECV
Individual Inpatient Medical Spending >=900,000	0.002	0.04	4,211	0.002	0.04	2,248	0.002	0.04	1,963	ECV
Individual Inpatient Medical Spending >= 1,200,000	0.001	0.04	4,211	0.001	0.04	2,248	0.002	0.04	1,963	ECV
Has Car	0.03	0.16	3,276	0.03	0.17	1,676	0.02	0.15	1,600	DHS
Has Radio	0.60	0.49	3,276	0.60	0.49	1,676	0.61	0.49	1,600	DHS
<b>Medical Care Use</b>										
Preventive Physician Visit	0.47	0.50	4,222	0.39	0.49	2,253	0.57	0.49	1,969	ECV
Preventive Dentist Visit	0.29	0.45	4,222	0.24	0.43	2,253	0.34	0.47	1,969	ECV
Any Physician Visit	0.06	0.24	4,222	0.05	0.22	2,253	0.07	0.26	1,969	ECV
Any Physician or Nurse Visit	0.06	0.24	4,222	0.06	0.23	2,253	0.07	0.26	1,969	ECV
Waiting Time for Physician Visit (Days)	6.74	18.82	264	6.31	20.60	120	7.10	17.26	144	ECV
Hospitalization	0.08	0.26	4,222	0.07	0.25	2,253	0.08	0.28	1,969	ECV
Medical Visit for Chronic Disease	0.58	0.49	564	0.52	0.50	262	0.64	0.48	302	ECV
Medical Check-up Following Birth	0.49	0.50	1,013	0.47	0.50	500	0.51	0.50	513	DHS
Tetanus Vaccination at Birth	0.90	0.30	918	0.90	0.31	547	0.90	0.30	371	DHS
Medical Care for Child Diarrhea	0.37	0.48	222	0.37	0.48	126	0.39	0.49	96	DHS
Curative Care Use Conditional on Illness	0.49	0.50	757	0.47	0.50	429	0.53	0.50	328	DHS
Curative Care Use Not Conditional on Health Status	0.32	0.46	1,184	0.29	0.46	678	0.34	0.47	506	DHS
Growth and Development Program Registration	0.47	0.50	1,188	0.39	0.49	679	0.58	0.49	509	DHS
Has Growth and Development Card	0.43	0.50	1,188	0.35	0.48	679	0.54	0.50	509	DHS
Number of Growth Development Checks Last Year	1.17	1.85	1,186	0.96	1.75	678	1.45	1.93	508	DHS
<b>Health</b>										
Women's BMI	24.34	4.93	3,107	24.31	4.88	1,598	24.37	4.99	1,509	DHS
Child BMI	16.15	1.86	1,082	16.12	1.87	636	16.20	1.84	446	DHS
Birthweight (KG)	11.70	3.69	1,084	11.25	3.81	637	12.35	3.41	447	DHS
Child Days Lost to Illness	0.59	1.96	1,184	0.67	2.21	678	0.49	1.57	506	DHS
Adult Activity Days Lost	0.73	5.80	4,222	0.63	5.10	2,253	0.85	6.51	1,969	ECV
Chronic Disease	0.13	0.34	4,222	0.12	0.32	2,253	0.15	0.36	1,969	ECV
Child Diarrhea Last Two Weeks	0.19	0.39	1,188	0.19	0.39	679	0.19	0.39	509	DHS
Child Fever Last Two Weeks	0.27	0.45	1,188	0.27	0.44	679	0.28	0.45	509	DHS
Child Cough Last Two Weeks	0.44	0.50	1,188	0.44	0.50	679	0.44	0.50	509	DHS
Cough, Fever Diarrhea	0.56	0.50	1,188	0.56	0.50	679	0.57	0.50	509	DHS
Any Health Problem	0.64	0.48	1,184	0.63	0.48	678	0.65	0.48	506	DHS
Excellent Self-Reported Health	0.04	0.19	4,222	0.04	0.20	2,253	0.04	0.19	1,969	ECV
Good Self-Reported Health	0.65	0.48	4,222	0.67	0.47	2,253	0.64	0.48	1,969	ECV
Fair Self-Reported Health	0.96	0.20	4,222	0.96	0.20	2,253	0.95	0.21	1,969	ECV
<b>Behavioral Distortions</b>										
Drank Alcohol during Pregnancy	0.11	0.31	1,013	0.12	0.33	500	0.10	0.29	513	DHS
Number of Drinks per Week during Pregnancy	3.59	11.70	109	3.68	12.40	60	3.47	10.91	49	DHS
Months Child Breastfed	12.41	10.57	962	11.11	10.21	572	14.32	10.81	390	DHS
Folic Acid During Pregnancy	0.55	0.50	1,003	0.55	0.50	495	0.55	0.50	508	DHS
Number Months Folic Acid during Pregnancy	4.03	2.45	528	4.10	2.41	260	3.97	2.49	268	DHS
Handwashing	0.60	0.49	652	0.52	0.50	406	0.72	0.45	246	DHS
Ever Married	0.61	0.49	3,276	0.61	0.49	1,676	0.61	0.49	1,600	DHS
Current Contraceptive Use	0.48	0.50	3,276	0.47	0.50	1,676	0.48	0.50	1,600	DHS
Currently Pregnant	0.04	0.21	3,276	0.04	0.20	1,676	0.05	0.21	1,600	DHS
Children Ever Born	1.76	1.89	3,276	1.68	1.82	1,676	1.85	1.95	1,600	DHS
Household Head Employed	0.33	0.47	3,276	0.35	0.48	1,676	0.31	0.46	1,600	DHS
Contributory Regime Enrollment	0.12	0.33	3,276	0.24	0.43	1,676	0.00	0.00	1,600	DHS
Other Health Insurance	0.01	0.08	3,276	0.01	0.11	1,676	0.00	0.00	1,600	DHS
Uninsured	0.38	0.49	3,276	0.74	0.44	1,676	0.00	0.00	1,600	DHS
Contributory Regime Enrollment	0.09	0.29	4,222	0.17	0.38	2,253	0.00	0.00	1,969	ECV
Other Health Insurance	0.00	0.06	4,222	0.01	0.08	2,253	0.00	0.00	1,969	ECV
Uninsured	0.44	0.50	4,222	0.82	0.39	2,253	0.00	0.00	1,969	ECV
<b>Balance</b>										
Household Head Age	46.79	14.74	3,276	47.25	15.28	1,676	46.31	14.14	1,600	DHS
Completed Elementary School	0.19	0.39	3,275	0.18	0.38	1,675	0.20	0.40	1,600	DHS
Completed Secondary School	0.19	0.39	3,275	0.20	0.40	1,675	0.18	0.39	1,600	DHS
Household Head Completed Elementary School	0.29	0.45	3,276	0.28	0.45	1,676	0.31	0.46	1,600	DHS
Household Head Completed Secondary School	0.02	0.15	3,276	0.02	0.13	1,676	0.03	0.16	1,600	DHS
Services from Bienstar Familiar	0.18	0.38	4,222	0.16	0.37	2,253	0.20	0.40	1,969	ECV
Benefits to Buy House	0.01	0.08	4,222	0.00	0.06	2,253	0.01	0.10	1,969	ECV
Attended Training	0.05	0.21	3,010	0.06	0.23	1,593	0.04	0.19	1,417	ECV
Household in Hogar Comunitario program	0.10	0.30	4,222	0.09	0.29	2,253	0.11	0.31	1,969	ECV
Student Received School Grant	0.08	0.26	1,305	0.05	0.22	651	0.10	0.30	654	ECV
Household Head Age	46.58	14.79	4,222	45.71	15.12	2,253	47.57	14.35	1,969	ECV
Completed Elementary School	0.19	0.39	3,764	0.18	0.39	1,985	0.19	0.39	1,779	ECV
Completed Secondary School	0.07	0.26	3,764	0.08	0.27	1,985	0.07	0.25	1,779	ECV
Household Head Completed Elementary School	0.28	0.45	4,222	0.27	0.45	2,253	0.28	0.45	1,969	ECV
Household Head Completed Secondary School	0.02	0.13	4,222	0.01	0.11	2,253	0.02	0.15	1,969	ECV

All data summarized is from samples of "urban" individuals within two SISBEN index points of county-specific eligibility thresholds in either the 2005 Encuesta de Calidad de Vida (ECV) or the 2005 Demographic and Health Survey (DHS) (as indicated in the right column). SISBEN index calculations are described in detail in Appendix 2, and estimation of county-specific eligibility thresholds is presented in Section 3.2. The first group of three columns presents summary statistics for the entire bandwidth of 2 sample, the second group for those not enrolled in the Subsidized Regime, and the third group for those enrolled in the Subsidized Regime.

**TABLE 2:  
RISK PROTECTION AND PORTFOLIO CHOICE**

<b>Panel A: Risk Protection</b>									
Outcome:	Individual Inpatient Medical Spending	Individual Outpatient Medical Spending	Out-of-Pocket Spending for Chronic Disease Medication	Variability of Individual Inpatient Medical Spending	Variability of Individual Outpatient Medical Spending	Variability of Out-of-Pocket Spending for Chronic Disease Medication	Individual Inpatient Medical Spending >= 600,000	Individual Inpatient Medical Spending >= 900,000	Individual Inpatient Medical Spending >= 1,200,000
IV Estimate, Subsidized Regime Enrollment	-60,371* (33,166)	3,562 (3,307)	12,566 (12,405)	-62,109* (32,860)	2,620 (3,160)	12,815 (11,474)	-0.03* (0.01)	-0.02** (0.01)	-0.02** (0.01)
Intent to Treat Estimate, Subsidized Regime Enrollment	-15,628* (8,138)	918 (827)	3,234 (3,132)	-16,078** (8,046)	676 (793)	3,298 (2,915)	-0.01** (0.004)	-0.004*** (0.002)	-0.003*** (0.002)
Below Eligibility Threshold, First Stage Estimate (OLS)	0.26*** (0.05)	0.26*** (0.05)	0.26*** (0.05)	0.26*** (0.05)	0.26*** (0.05)	0.26*** (0.05)	0.26*** (0.05)	0.26*** (0.05)	0.26*** (0.05)
First Stage F-Statistic (OLS)	25.75	25.53	25.45	25.75	25.53	25.45	25.75	25.75	25.75
Observations	4,211	4,218	4,222	4,211	4,218	4,222	4,211	4,211	4,211
Data Source	ECV	ECV	ECV	ECV	ECV	ECV	ECV	ECV	ECV
<b>Panel B: Portfolio Choice</b>									
Outcome:	Individual Education Spending	Household Education Spending	Total Spending on Food	Total Monthly Expenditure	Has Car	Has Radio			
IV Estimate, Subsidized Regime Enrollment	-342 (4,963)	30,366 (25,733)	32,136 (104,871)	-33,826 (305,878)	0.07 (0.04)	0.14 (0.11)			
Intent to Treat Estimate, Subsidized Regime Enrollment	-84.72 (1,230)	7,815 (6,412)	8,790 (28,271)	-14,036 (127,170)	0.03* (0.02)	0.05 (0.04)			
Below Eligibility Threshold, First Stage Estimate (OLS)	0.25*** (0.05)	0.26*** (0.05)	0.27*** (0.05)	0.41*** (0.11)	0.40*** (0.04)	0.40*** (0.04)			
First Stage F-Statistic (OLS)	23.16	25.45	27.82	13.53	110	110			
Observations	3,567	4,222	4,096	966	3,276	3,276			
Data Source	ECV	ECV	ECV	ECV	DHS	DHS			

Individual-level “urban” data for those within two SISBEN index points of county-specific eligibility thresholds from the 2003 ECV and 2005 DHS. Dependent variables are shown at the top of each column. The first row shows 2SLS estimates for enrollment in the Subsidized Regime (SR), instrumenting for SR enrollment using simulated eligibility. The second row shows reduced-form intent-to-treat estimates for simulated SISBEN score falling below the county-specific eligibility threshold; for dichotomous dependent variables, marginal probabilities obtained from probit estimates calculated at the mean of the independent variables are reported. The third row shows first stage estimates from regressions of Subsidized Regime enrollment on an indicator for falling below the county-specific eligibility threshold. All specifications also include SISBEN score, distance from the county-specific threshold, estrato dummy variables, and county fixed effects. Standard errors (clustered by household) are shown in parentheses below each estimate. \*p<0.10, \*\*p<0.05, \*\*\*p<0.01.



**TABLE 3:  
MEDICAL CARE USE**

Outcome:	Preventive Physician Visit	Preventive Dentist Visit	Any Physician Visit	Any Physician or Nurse Visit	Waiting Time for Physician Visit (Days)	Hospital Stay	Medical Visit for Chronic Disease	Medical Check-up Following Birth	Tetanus Vaccination at Birth	Medical Care for Child Diarrhea	Curative Care Use Conditional on Illness	Curative Use not Conditional on Health Status	Growth and Dev. Program Registration	Has Growth and Dev. Card	Number of Growth Dev. Checks Last Year
IV Estimate, Subsidized Regime Enrollment	0.29* (0.17)	0.03 (0.16)	0.14** (0.06)	0.13** (0.06)	-13.44 (21.38)	-0.04 (0.06)	0.51 (0.34)	0.01 (0.17)	0.001 (0.13)	-1.62 (2.35)	0.11 (0.30)	-0.05 (0.19)	0.21 (0.18)	0.20 (0.18)	1.24* (0.74)
Intent to Treat Estimate, Subsidized Regime Enrollment	0.08* (0.05)	0.01 (0.04)	0.04** (0.02)	0.04** (0.02)	-4.33 (6.64)	-0.01 (0.02)	0.20* (0.10)	0.005 (0.06)	0.0003 (0.04)	-0.25* (0.15)	0.03 (0.08)	-0.02 (0.06)	0.07 (0.06)	0.06 (0.06)	0.39* (0.23)
Below Eligibility Threshold, First Stage Estimate (OLS)	0.26*** (0.05)	0.26*** (0.05)	0.26*** (0.05)	0.26*** (0.05)	0.32** (0.15)	0.26*** (0.05)	0.35*** (0.10)	0.35*** (0.06)	0.31*** (0.07)	0.16 (0.18)	0.28*** (0.08)	0.31*** (0.06)	0.32*** (0.06)	0.32*** (0.06)	0.31*** (0.06)
First Stage F-Statistic (OLS)	25.45	25.45	25.45	25.45	4.81	25.45	11.58	31.29	21.86	0.73	11.42	25.11	25.53	25.53	25.19
Observations	4,222	4,222	4,222	4,222	264	4,222	564	1,013	918	222	757	1,184	1,188	1,188	1,186
Data Source	ECV	ECV	ECV	ECV	ECV	ECV	ECV	DHS	DHS	DHS	DHS	DHS	DHS	DHS	DHS

Individual-level “urban” data for those within two SISBEN index points of county-specific eligibility thresholds from the 2003 ECV and 2005 DHS. Dependent variables are shown at the top of each column. The first row shows 2SLS estimates for enrollment in the Subsidized Regime (SR), instrumenting for SR enrollment using simulated eligibility. The second row shows reduced-form intent-to-treat estimates for simulated SISBEN score falling below the county-specific eligibility threshold; for dichotomous dependent variables, marginal probabilities obtained from probit estimates calculated at the mean of the independent variables are reported. The third row shows first stage estimates from regressions of Subsidized Regime enrollment on an indicator for falling below the county-specific eligibility threshold. All specifications also include SISBEN score, distance from the county-specific threshold, estrato dummy variables, and county fixed effects. Standard errors (clustered by household) are shown in parentheses below each estimate. \*p<0.10, \*\*p<0.05, \*\*\*p<0.01.

**TABLE 4:  
HEALTH OUTCOMES**

Outcome:	Women's BMI	Child BMI	Birthweight (KG)	Child Days Lost to Illness	Adult Activity Days Lost	Chronic Disease	Child Diarrhea Last Two Weeks	Child Fever Last Two Weeks	Child Cough Last Two Weeks	Cough, Fever, Diarrhea	Any Health Problem	Excellent Self-Reported Health	Good Self-Reported Health	Fair Self-Reported Health
IV Estimate, Subsidized Regime Enrollment	-0.42 (0.83)	-0.36 (0.71)	-0.38 (0.33)	-1.30* (0.71)	0.80 (1.64)	0.06 (0.10)	-0.14 (0.16)	-0.11 (0.17)	-0.25 (0.22)	-0.35* (0.21)	-0.26 (0.19)	-0.12* (0.07)	-0.07 (0.14)	-0.07 (0.06)
Intent to Treat Estimate, Subsidized Regime Enrollment	-0.17 (0.34)	-0.12 (0.23)	-0.10 (0.08)	-0.41** (0.21)	0.21 (0.42)	0.02 (0.03)	-0.04 (0.05)	-0.03 (0.05)	-0.08 (0.07)	-0.11* (0.06)	-0.08 (0.06)	-0.03* (0.02)	-0.02 (0.04)	-0.02 (0.02)
Below Eligibility Threshold, First Stage Estimate (OLS)	0.41*** (0.04)	0.33*** (0.07)	0.28*** (0.07)	0.31*** (0.06)	0.26*** (0.05)	0.26*** (0.05)	0.32*** (0.06)	0.32*** (0.06)	0.32*** (0.06)	0.32*** (0.06)	0.32*** (0.06)	0.26*** (0.05)	0.26*** (0.05)	0.26*** (0.05)
First Stage F-Statistic (OLS)	109.60	24.83	14.36	25.11	25.11	25.45	25.53	25.53	25.53	25.53	25.11	25.45	25.45	25.45
Observations	3,107	1,082	901	1,184	4,222	4,222	1,188	1,188	1,188	1,188	1,184	4,222	4,222	4,222
Data Source	DHS	DHS	DHS	DHS	ECV	ECV	DHS	DHS	DHS	DHS	DHS	ECV	ECV	ECV

Individual-level “urban” data for those within two SISBEN index points of county-specific eligibility thresholds from the 2003 ECV and 2005 DHS. Dependent variables are shown at the top of each column. The first row shows 2SLS estimates for enrollment in the Subsidized Regime (SR), instrumenting for SR enrollment using simulated eligibility. The second row shows reduced-form intent-to-treat estimates for simulated SISBEN score falling below the county-specific eligibility threshold; for dichotomous dependent variables, marginal probabilities obtained from probit estimates calculated at the mean of the independent variables are reported. The third row shows first stage estimates from regressions of Subsidized Regime enrollment on an indicator for falling below the county-specific eligibility threshold. All specifications also include SISBEN score, distance from the county-specific threshold, estrato dummy variables, and county fixed effects. Standard errors (clustered by household) are shown in parentheses below each estimate. \*p<0.10, \*\*p<0.05, \*\*\*p<0.01.

TABLE 5:  
BEHAVIORAL DISORTIONS - EX ANTE MORAL HAZARD, ELIGIBILITY-RELATED BEHAVIOR, AND INSURANCE CROWD-OUT

Outcome:	<i>Ex-Ante</i> Moral Hazard					Eligibility-Related Behavior						Insurance Crowd-Out					
	Drank Alcohol during Pregnancy	Number of Drinks per Week during Pregnancy	Months Breastfed as Child	Folic Acid During Pregnancy	Number Months Folic Acid during Pregnancy	Hand washing	Ever Married	Current Birth Control Use	Currently Pregnant	Children Ever Born	Household Head Employed	Contributory Regime Enrollment	Uninsured	Other Health Insurance	Contributory Regime Enrollment	Uninsured	Other Health Insurance
IV Estimate, Subsidized Regime Enrollment	-0.05 (0.12)	-21.59 (136)	-0.82 (5.27)	0.15 (0.17)	0.52 (1.46)	-0.24 (0.37)	-0.07 (0.07)	-0.01 (0.08)	-0.04 (0.04)	-0.19 (0.25)	0.02 (0.08)						
Intent to Treat Estimate, Subsidized Regime Enrollment	-0.02 (0.04)	-1.89 (10.56)	-0.22 (1.41)	0.06 (0.06)	0.17 (0.47)	-0.05 (0.08)	-0.03 (0.03)	0.00 (0.03)	-0.02 (0.01)	-0.07 (0.10)	0.01 (0.03)	-0.025 (0.03)	-0.23*** (0.05)	-0.002 (0.003)	-0.043* (0.02)	-0.36*** (0.04)	-0.001 (0.008)
Below Eligibility Threshold, First Stage Estimate (OLS)	0.35*** (0.06)	0.09 (0.32)	0.27*** (0.06)	0.36*** (0.06)	0.33*** (0.09)	0.36*** (0.06)	0.40*** (0.04)	0.40*** (0.04)	0.40*** (0.04)	0.40*** (0.04)	0.40*** (0.04)						
First Stage F-Statistic (OLS)	31.29	0.07	17.56	32.49	11.91	8.44	110	110	110	110	110						
Observations	1,013	109	962	1,003	528	652	3,276	3,276	3,276	3,276	3,276	4,222	4,222	4,222	3,276	3,276	3,276
Data Source	DHS	DHS	DHS	DHS	DHS	DHS	DHS	DHS	DHS	DHS	DHS	ECV	ECV	ECV	DHS	DHS	DHS

Individual-level "urban" data for those within two SISBEN index points of county-specific eligibility thresholds from the 2003 ECV and 2005 DHS. Dependent variables are shown at the top of each column. The first row shows 2SLS estimates for enrollment in the Subsidized Regime (SR), instrumenting for SR enrollment using simulated eligibility. The second row shows reduced-form intent-to-treat estimates for simulated SISBEN score falling below the county-specific eligibility threshold; for dichotomous dependent variables, marginal probabilities obtained from probit estimates calculated at the mean of the independent variables are reported. Intent-to-treat estimates only are reported for the crowd-out analyses of other insurance types (the last six columns). The third row shows first stage estimates from regressions of Subsidized Regime enrollment on an indicator for falling below the county-specific eligibility threshold. All specifications also include SISBEN score, distance from the county-specific threshold, estrato dummy variables, and county fixed effects. Standard errors (clustered by household) are shown in parentheses below each estimate. \*p<0.10, \*\*p<0.05, \*\*\*p<0.01.

**TABLE 6:  
BALANCE ACROSS ELIGIBILITY THRESHOLDS**

Outcome:	Household Head Age	Household Head Age	Completed Elementary School	Completed Elementary School	Completed Secondary School	Completed Secondary School	Household Head Completed Elementary School	Household Head Completed Elementary School	Household Head Completed Secondary School	Household Head Completed Secondary School	Student Received School Grant	Benefits to Buy House	Attended Training	Household in Hogar Comunitario program	Services from Bienestar Familiar
IV Estimate, Subsidized Regime Enrollment	1.29 (3.15)	3.05 (6.53)	-0.09 (0.06)	-0.15 (0.10)	0.09 (0.07)	0.05 (0.06)	-0.16 (0.11)	-0.37* (0.22)	0.001 (0.03)	-0.04 (0.07)	-0.06 (0.14)	0.02 (0.04)	0.01 (0.05)	0.03 (0.16)	-0.04 (0.20)
Intent to Treat Estimate, Subsidized Regime Enrollment	0.52 (1.26)	0.79 (1.68)	-0.04 (0.03)	-0.04 (0.02)	0.04 (0.03)	0.02 (0.02)	-0.06 (0.04)	-0.11* (0.06)	0.00 (0.01)	-0.01 (0.01)	-0.02 (0.04)	0.01 (0.02)	0.002 (0.02)	0.01 (0.06)	-0.01 (0.06)
Below Eligibility Threshold, First Stage Estimate (OLS)	0.40*** (0.04)	0.26*** (0.05)	0.40*** (0.04)	0.25*** (0.05)	0.40*** (0.04)	0.25*** (0.05)	0.40*** (0.04)	0.26*** (0.05)	0.40*** (0.04)	0.26*** (0.05)	0.21*** (0.07)	0.26*** (0.05)	0.27*** (0.05)	0.26*** (0.05)	0.26*** (0.05)
First Stage F-Statistic (OLS)	110	25.45	111	24.72	111	24.72	110	25.45	110	25.45	8.71	25.45	28.79	25.45	25.45
Observations	3,276	4,222	3,275	3,764	3,275	3,764	3,276	4,222	3,276	4,222	1,305	4,222	3,010	4,222	4,222
Data Source	DHS	ECV	DHS	ECV	DHS	ECV	DHS	ECV	DHS	ECV	ECV	ECV	ECV	ECV	ECV

Individual-level “urban” data for those within two SISBEN index points of county-specific eligibility thresholds from the 2003 ECV and 2005 DHS. Dependent variables are shown at the top of each column. The first row shows 2SLS estimates for enrollment in the Subsidized Regime (SR), instrumenting for SR enrollment using simulated eligibility. The second row shows reduced-form intent-to-treat estimates for simulated SISBEN score falling below the county-specific eligibility threshold; for dichotomous dependent variables, marginal probabilities obtained from probit estimates calculated at the mean of the independent variables are reported. The third row shows first stage estimates from regressions of Subsidized Regime enrollment on an indicator for falling below the county-specific eligibility threshold. All specifications also include SISBEN score, distance from the county-specific threshold, estrato dummy variables, and county fixed effects. Standard errors (clustered by household) are shown in parentheses below each estimate. \*p<0.10, \*\*p<0.05, \*\*\*p<0.01.

### Appendix 1: Subsidized Regime Benefits

AGE / POPULATION GROUP	TYPE OF BENEFIT							
	Preventive care	Primary care (basic medical consultations, procedures and diagnostic tests)	Secondary care (specialist care, hospitalizations)	Tertiary care	Catastrophic care	Medications	Transportation	Excluded interventions
< 1 YEAR	Neonatal care and screening (Vit K, anemia, TSH), immunizations, well child care	All	All	All	Treatment with radiotherapy and chemotherapy for cancer, dialysis and organ transplant for renal failure, Surgical treatment of heart, cerebrovascular, neurological and congenital conditions, treatment of major trauma, intensive care unit, hip and knee replacement, major burns, treatment for AIDS	All medications in national formulary	For referrals, catastrophic care cases	Aesthetic surgery Infertility treatment Treatment for sleep disorders Organ transplants (except renal, heart, cornea and bone marrow) Psychotherapy and psychoanalysis Treatments for end stage disease
1-4 years	Well child care, immunizations, anemia screening		Cataract and strabismus surgery, herniorrhaphy, appendectomy, cholecystectomy, orthopedics, rehabilitation services and procedures	Not covered				
5-19 years	Well child care, immunizations, anemia screening							
20-60 years	Cardiovascular and renal disease risk screening, cervical and breast cancer screening							
>60 years	Cardiovascular and renal disease risk screening, cervical and breast cancer screening							
PREGNANT WOMEN	High risk screening, STD, prenatal care		Same as above plus obstetric care	Obstetric care				

## Appendix 2: Components of the SISBEN Index and SISBEN Score Calculations

This appendix describes the components of SISBEN index, details the index information available in each household survey, and explains how we calculate SISBEN scores in each data source.

### 1. Components of the SISBEN Index

As explained in the text of the paper, our study focuses on the original urban SISBEN index. There are four general types of information used in calculating the SISBEN index: (A) human capital, employer characteristics, and benefits; (B) demographics, income, and labor force participation; (C) housing characteristics; and (D) access to public utilities. The index is composed of 14 components across these categories. For each component, respondents are categorized according to mutually exclusive, collectively exhaustive polychotomous response categories. Each response category for each component corresponds to a weight or “points,” and index scores are calculated by summing across points. Scores range between 0 and 100; higher scores denote higher socio-economic status.

The specific components of the index are:

#### *(A) Human Capital; Employer Characteristics and Benefits*

- (1) Educational attainment of the household head
- (2) Mean Schooling for household members twelve years old and older
- (3) Firm size and provision of Social Security benefits for the household head

#### *(B) Demographics, Income, and Labor Force Participation*

- (4) Proportion of children six years old and under (as share of children under age eighteen)
- (5) Proportion of household members employed (as a share of those older than twelve)
- (6) Per capita income indexed to the minimum wage (all types of income are counted)

#### *(C) Housing Characteristics*

- (7) Number of rooms per person
- (8) Primary wall material
- (9) Primary roof material
- (10) Primary floor material
- (11) Number of appliances (among those on a pre-determined list)

#### *(D) Access to Public Utilities*

- (12) Water source
- (13) Sewage disposal
- (14) Garbage disposal

### 2. SISBEN Components Available in Each Household Survey

Our analyses use the 2003 ECV and the 2005 DHS. The table below shows which SISBEN components are available in each survey.

<b>Variable</b>	<b>DHS 2005</b>	<b>ECV 2003</b>
Educational Attainment	Available	Available
Employment Status	Available	Available
Social Security Benefits		
Health Insurance	Available	Available
Pension	Not Available	Available
Firm Size (Number of Employees)	Not Available	Available
Age	Available	Available
Income	Not available	Available
Number of Rooms	Available	Available
Primary Wall Material	Available	Available
Primary Roof Material	Not available	Not available
Primary Floor Material	Available	Available
Number of Appliances		
TV	Available	Available
Refrigerator	Available	Available
Air Conditioner	Available	Available
Blender	Available	Available
Washing Machine	Available	Available
Water Source	Available	Available
Sewage Disposal	Available	Available
Garbage Disposal	Available	Available

Most SISBEN components are available in the household surveys we use in our primary analyses (nearly all in the 2003 ECV and the great majority in the 2005 DHS). For missing components, we use an ordered probit procedure to predict the most likely response category for each missing component using a large number of observable household characteristics. The section below describes how we performed our SISBEN score calculations.

### **3. SISBEN Score Calculations**

In this section we report SISBEN index weights for each response category for each component and describe how we impute scores for components not represented in our household surveys. SISBEN index scores are then calculated by summing weights or points across all components.

#### **A. Human Capital; Employer Characteristics and Benefits**

##### *1. Educational attainment of the household head*

1	No education	0
2	Some elementary	1.6239
3	Complete elementary	3.4435
4	Some secondary	5.0039
5	Complete secondary	7.3434
6	Some of higher education	9.7833
7	Complete higher education	11.546
8	Graduate studies	12.4806

To compute educational attainment, we use information of level of schooling completed and number of years of schooling. Levels of schooling correspond to the following number of years of education:

- Complete elementary school: 5 years
- Complete secondary education: 11 years
- Complete higher education: 16 years
- Graduate studies: 16 or more years

Sufficient information on level and years of schooling is available to compute this variable in all household surveys.

### 2. Mean Schooling for household members twelve years old and older

1	0 years	0
2	Between 0 and 4 years	1.657
3	Between 4 and 5 years	2.9947
4	Between 5 and 10 years	4.969
5	Between 10 and 11 years	7.6387
6	Between 11 and 15 years	9.4425
7	Between 15 and 16 years	10.69
8	16 years or more	11.1396

Using the coding scheme described for calculating educational attainment for the household head, we calculate mean years of schooling for all household members 12 and older. Sufficient information is available to compute this variable in all household surveys.

### 3. Firm size and provision of Social Security benefits for the household head

1	Without benefits and either works alone or does not work	0
2	Without benefits and works in firm with 2 to 9 employees	1.166
3	Without benefits and works in firm with 10 or more employees	2.6545
4	With benefits and either works alone or does not work	3.9539
5	Without benefits and works in firm with 2 to 9 employees	5.8427
6	Without benefits and works in firm with 10 or more employees	6.9718

Assigning response categories for this index component requires information about employment status, social security benefits (health insurance and pension benefits), and firm size:

- *Employment status* is available in all household surveys.
- *Firm size* is not available in the 2005 DHS. We therefore use ordered probit models to predict the probability of falling into each of the three firm size categories (1 employee, 2-9 employees, 10 or more employees). We then select the category with the highest predicted probability. To obtain parametric estimates of the relationship between a variety of observable household characteristics (demographic characteristics, education,



and regional controls among urban residents) and firm size, we estimate these ordered probit models using the 2003 ECV

- *Social Security benefits* consist of two components: health insurance benefits and pension benefits:
  - *Health Insurance Benefits.* Health insurance status is judged in each household survey in the following way:
    - ECV 2003: Has health insurance if affiliated with “ISS,” “Caja de Prevision,” “army/police” insurance scheme, “Ecopetrol” scheme, the “educational system” scheme, or an “EPS – different to ISS or Caja de Prevision.” Those with insurance through an “ARS” or “Empresa solidaria” are excluded.
    - DHS 2005: Has health insurance if affiliated with “ISS,” “EPS,” “Public Agency,” “army/police” insurance scheme, “Ecopetrol” scheme, the “educational system” scheme, or “Foncolpuertos.” Those with insurance through an “ARS” are excluded.
  - *Pension Benefits.* Pension benefits are judged according to affiliation with the public or private pension system. This information is available in the 2003 ECV but not in the 2005 DHS.

In the 2003 ECV, Social Security benefits are judged according to having health insurance and/or pension benefits. In the 2005 DHS, Social Security benefits are judged according to health insurance benefits.

#### (B) Demographics, Income, and Labor Force Participation

##### *(4) Proportion of children six years old and under (as share of children under age eighteen)*

1	Greater than 0.65	0
2	From 0 to 0.65	0.2237
3	Zero	1.4761

Sufficient information is available to compute this variable in all household surveys.

##### *(5) Proportion of household members employed (as a share of those older than twelve)*

1	Less than 0.30	0
2	From 0.30 to 0.60	0.6717
3	From 0.60 to 0.90	1.739
4	Greater than 0.90	4.0149

For constructing this proportion, employment is defined as having worked in the preceding week, not having worked but having regular job, or receiving payment for working more than one hour. Sufficient information is available to compute this variable in all household surveys.

(6) Per capita income indexed to the minimum wage (all types of income are counted)

1	Up to 0.15	0
2	Above 0.15 up to 0.25	0.8476
3	Above 0.25 up to 0.35	2.1828
4	Above 0.35 up to 0.50	3.5362
5	Above 0.50 up to 0.75	5.3636
6	Above 0.75 up to 1.00	7.0827
7	Above 1.00 up to 1.25	8.2489
8	Above 1.25 up to 1.50	9.4853
9	Above 1.50 up to 2.00	10.2098
10	Above 2.00 up to 3.00	11.3999
11	Above 3.00 up to 4.00	13.0872
12	Above 4.00	13.7378

To calculate per capita income for a family, we define income to include labor income from primary and secondary jobs (both for the employed and self-employed) and pension benefits for retirees. In-kind subsidies are excluded. We obtained nominal minimum wage information (summarized below) from The Colombian Central Bank's *Monetary and Financial Statistics*:

Year	Minimum wage (in Colombian pesos)
2003	332,000.0
2005	381,500.0

Income variables are available only in the 2003 ECV. For the 2005 DHS, we use ordered probit models to predict the probability of falling into each of 12 discrete categories; we then select the category with the highest predicted probability. To obtain parametric estimates of the relationship between a variety of observable household characteristics (demographic characteristics, education, and regional controls among urban residents) and firm size, we estimate these ordered probit models using the 2003 ECV.

(C) Housing Characteristics

(7) Number of rooms per person

1	Less than 0.20	0
2	0.20 to 0.30	0.5584
3	0.30 to 0.40	1.6535
4	0.40 to 0.70	2.5727
5	0.70 to 1.00	4.3886
6	1.00 to 4.00	6.0042
7	Greater than 4.00	8.3828

To assign response categories for this index component, rooms are defined as rooms exclusively used by household members (including living rooms but excluding kitchens, bathrooms, garages, and rooms used for business). This information is available in the 2003 ECV. For the 2005 DHS, we use number of rooms used by household members for sleeping.

*(8) Primary wall material*

1	Without walls or with bamboo or other organic materials	0
2	Zinc, cloth, cardboard, cans	0.2473
3	Raw wood	2.0207
4	Mud and cane wall	4.8586
5	Adobe, wide mud wall	6.2845
6	Block, bricks, stone, prefabricated material, polished wood	7.7321

Information on wall material is available in both the 2003 ECV and the 2005 DHS.

*(9) Primary roof material*

1	Straw or palm leaves	0
2	Recycled household materials (cardboard, cans, burlap sacks, etc)	2.1043
3	Zinc, asbestos, cement, without ceiling	3.7779
4	Clay tile, zinc, asbestos, cement, with ceiling	5.0973

Information on primary roof material is available only in the 1997 ECV. We therefore use parametric estimates of the relationship between observable characteristics (number of rooms, floor material and regional dummies among urban households) and roof material obtained from an ordered probit model fit with the 1997 ECV to predict the probability of falling into each roof material category shown above. We assign the category with the highest predicted probability.

*(10) Primary floor material*

1	Dirt	0
2	Raw wood, boards	2.9037
3	Cement	3.6967
4	Floor tile (clay, vinyl), brick or paving tile	5.8712
5	Wall to wall carpet, marble, polished wood	6.8915

Sufficient information is available to compute this variable in all household surveys.

*(11) Number of appliances (among those on a pre-determined list)*

1	No appliances	0
2	1-3 basic appliances basics	2.1435
3	4 basic appliances without laundry machine	3.0763
4	3 or more basic appliances with laundry machine	4.7194

For this SISBEN index component, four appliances are considered “basic” (TVs, refrigerators, blenders, and air conditioners) and a washing/laundry machine is treated separately as shown in the table above. All necessary information about appliances is present in both the 2003 ECV and the 2005 DHS.

(D) Access to Public Utilities

*(12) Water source*

1	River or spring	0
2	Public fountain or other source	1.1606
3	Well without water pump, container or rain water	2.6497
4	Well with water pump	4.6037
5	Container truck	6.1693
6	Aqueduct	7.2554

All necessary information for assigning response categories is available in the 2003 ECV. In the 2005 DHS, we classify “bottled water” as “aqueduct.”

*(13) Sewage disposal*

1	No sewage	0
2	Latrine	2.4519
3	Toilet without connection to sewer or septic tank	3.3323
4	Toilet with connection to septic tank	3.9615
5	Toilet with connection to sewer	6.8306

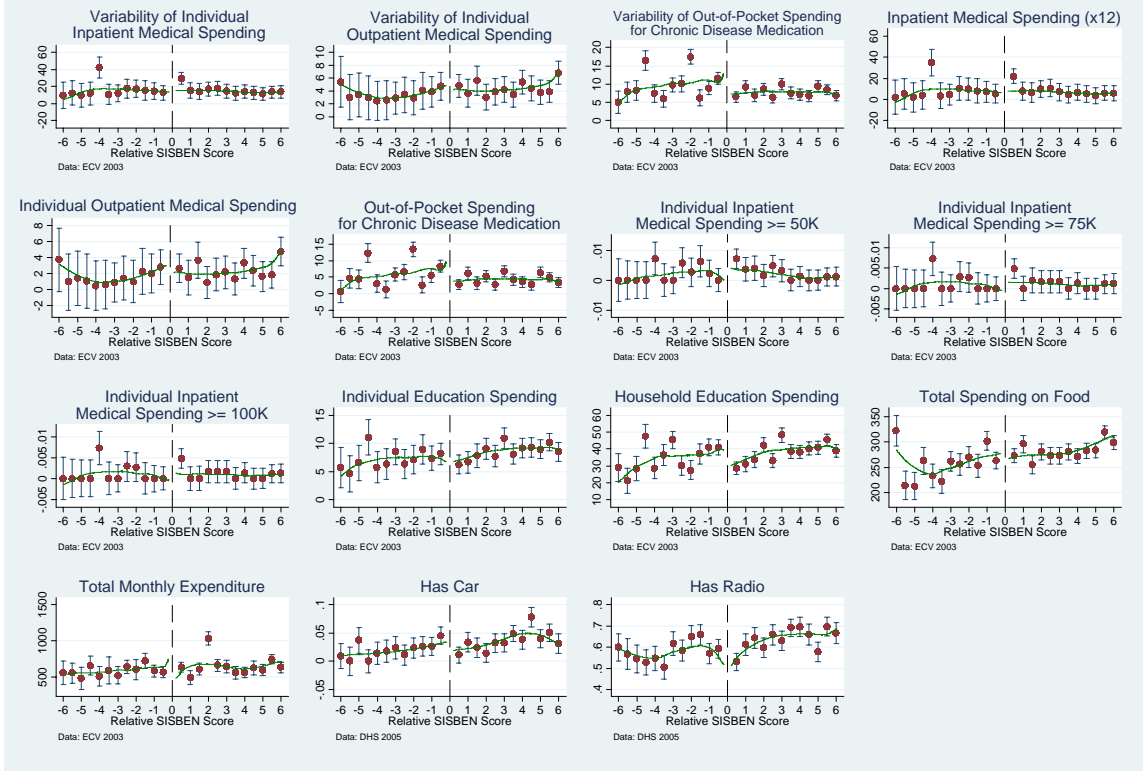
Information on sewage disposal is available in all household surveys, but in the 2005 DHS, some minor coding assumptions were necessary. In the 2005 DHS, we code both “traditional pit toilet” and “traditional toilet to sea/river” as “latrine.”

*(14) Garbage disposal*

1	Yard, lot, river, etc.	0
2	Local container or public trashcan	2.1291
3	Picked up by public services	3.2701

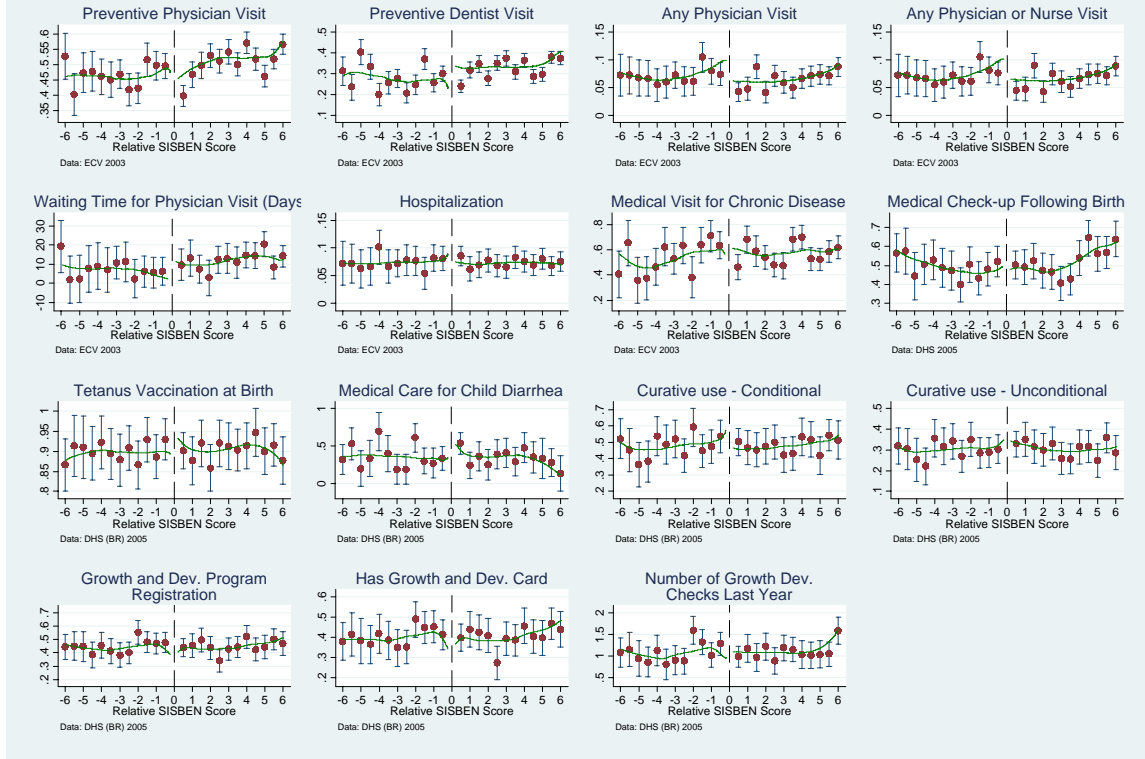
Information on garbage disposal is available in both the 2005 DHS and the 2003 ECV.

### Appendix 3, Figure 1: Risk Protection, Consumption Smoothing, and Portfolio Choice



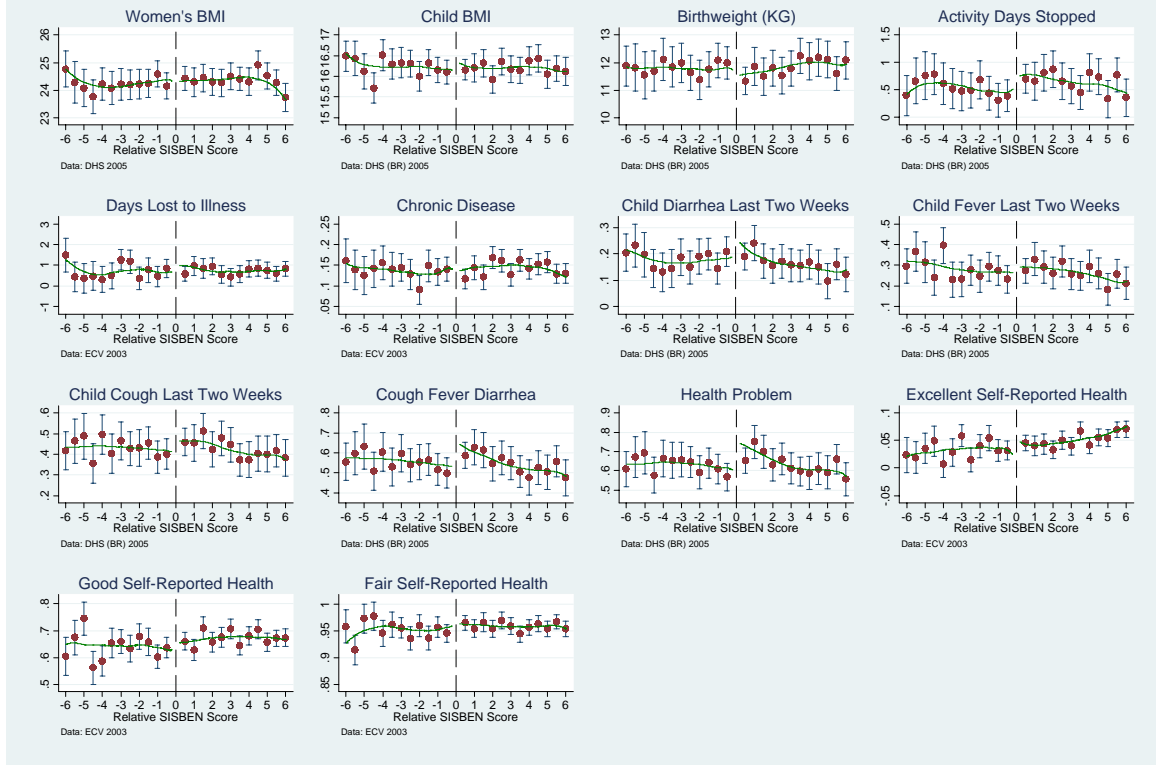
Individual-level “urban” data for those within six SISBEN index points of county-specific eligibility thresholds from the 2003 ECV and 2005 DHS. All expenditures are in 1,000s of Colombian pesos. Each point (and corresponding 95% confidence interval bars) represents means for individuals grouped into half-integer bins relative to county-specific thresholds. Non-parametric kernel density plots also fitted separately using individuals on either side of county-specific thresholds.

## Appendix 3, Figure 2: Medical Care Use



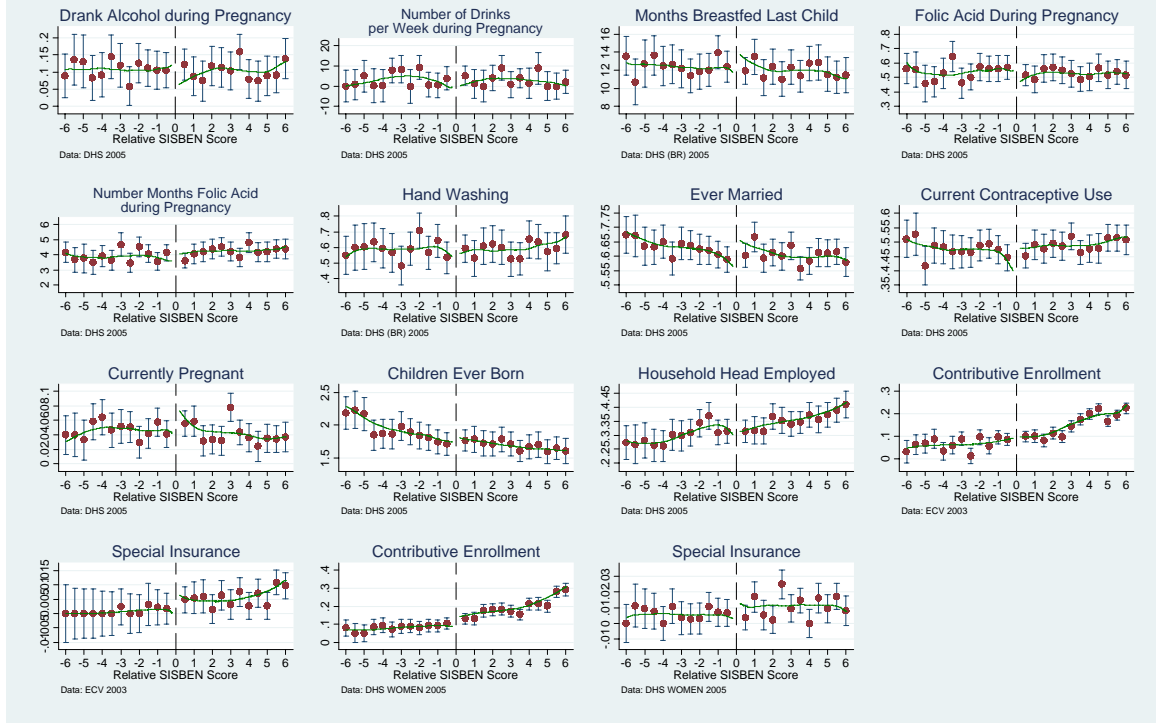
Individual-level “urban” data for those within six SISBEN index points of county-specific eligibility thresholds from the 2003 ECV and 2005 DHS. Each point (and corresponding 95% confidence interval bars) represents means for individuals grouped into half-integer bins relative to county-specific thresholds. Non-parametric kernel density plots also fitted separately using individuals on either side of county-specific thresholds.

## Appendix 3, Figure 3: Health Outcomes



Individual-level “urban” data for those within six SISBEN index points of county-specific eligibility thresholds from the 2003 ECV and 2005 DHS. Each point (and corresponding 95% confidence interval bars) represents means for individuals grouped into half-integer bins relative to county-specific thresholds. Non-parametric kernel density plots also fitted separately using individuals on either side of county-specific thresholds.

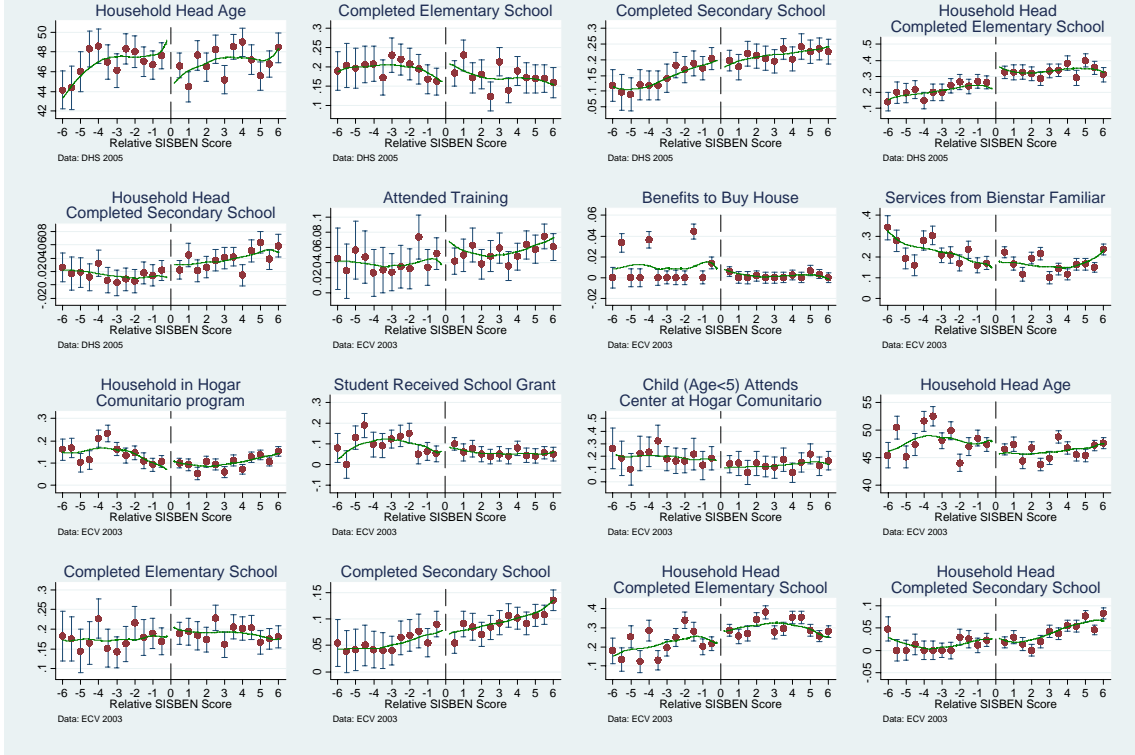
## Appendix 3, Figure 4: Ex Ante Moral Hazard and Eligibility-Related Behavior Distortions



Individual-level “urban” data for those within six SISBEN index points of county-specific eligibility thresholds from the 2003 ECV and 2005 DHS. Each point (and corresponding 95% confidence interval bars) represents means for individuals grouped into half-integer bins relative to county-specific thresholds. Non-parametric kernel density plots also fitted separately using individuals on either side of county-specific thresholds.



### Appendix 3, Figure 5: Balance across SISBEN Eligibility Thresholds



Individual-level “urban” data for those within six SISBEN index points of county-specific eligibility thresholds from the 2003 ECV and 2005 DHS. Each point (and corresponding 95% confidence interval bars) represents means for individuals grouped into half-integer bins relative to county-specific thresholds. Non-parametric kernel density plots also fitted separately using individuals on either side of county-specific thresholds.

**APPENDIX 4 TABLE A1:  
ROBUSTNESS OF RISK PROTECTION AND PORTFOLIO CHOICE RESULTS**

<b>Panel A: Risk Protection</b>									
Model:	Individual Inpatient Medical Spending	Individual Outpatient Medical Spending	Out-of-Pocket Spending for Chronic Disease Medication	Variability of Individual Inpatient Medical Spending	Variability of Individual Outpatient Medical Spending	Variability of Out-of-Pocket Spending for Chronic Disease Medication	Individual Inpatient Medical Spending >= 600,000	Individual Inpatient Medical Spending >= 900,000	Individual Inpatient Medical Spending >= 1,200,000
Subsidiado Bandwidth 2	-60,371* (33,166)	3,562 (3,307)	12,566 (12,405)	-62,109* (32,860)	2,620 (3,160)	12,815 (11,474)	-0.03* (0.01)	-0.02** (0.01)	-0.02** (0.01)
Subsidiado Bandwidth 3	-46,561* (27,208)	704 (3,939)	15,846 (9,955)	-48,237* (26,931)	-501 (3,856)	16,445* (9,162)	-0.02 (0.01)	-0.01* (0.01)	-0.01 (0.01)
Subsidiado Bandwidth 4	-62,047** (30,387)	2,544 (4,018)	16,851 (11,338)	-62,512** (30,152)	1,207 (3,921)	17,127 (10,617)	-0.03* (0.01)	-0.02** (0.01)	-0.02* (0.01)
Subsidiado Higher Order Polynomial - Bandwidth 2	-149,854* (84,609)	10,029 (7,946)	28,025 (24,793)	-151,503* (84,197)	9,092 (7,639)	27,056 (22,766)	-0.06* (0.03)	-0.04* (0.02)	-0.05* (0.02)
Subsidiado Higher Order Polynomial - Bandwidth 3	-84,792** (43,097)	-93.4 (5,831)	10,990 (15,673)	-86,252** (42,730)	-1,169 (5,708)	10,606 (14,570)	-0.03** (0.02)	-0.03** (0.01)	-0.03** (0.01)
Subsidiado Higher Order Polynomial - Bandwidth 4	-42,084 (30,161)	-1,483 (5,155)	13,710 (10,011)	-42,573 (29,886)	-2,700 (5,088)	13,456 (9,212)	-0.02* (0.01)	-0.01* (0.01)	-0.01 (0.01)
Subsidiado without Municipio Fixed Effects - Bandwidth 2	-63,012 (41,233)	-1,996 (6,967)	18,556* (11,093)	-64,910 (40,957)	-2,957 (6,894)	18,719* (9,963)	-0.03* (0.02)	-0.02 (0.01)	-0.02 (0.01)
Subsidiado without Municipio Fixed Effects - Bandwidth 3	-44,629 (29,815)	-56.4 (5,175)	18,108* (10,228)	-46,507 (29,589)	-1,216 (5,112)	18,218* (9,405)	-0.02 (0.01)	-0.01 (0.01)	-0.01 (0.01)
Subsidiado without Municipio Fixed Effects - Bandwidth 4	-61,221* (33,074)	1,343 (5,477)	20,023* (12,031)	-61,853* (32,859)	24.02 (5,403)	19,816* (11,261)	-0.03* (0.01)	-0.02* (0.01)	-0.01* (0.01)
Data Source	ECV	ECV	ECV	ECV	ECV	ECV	ECV	ECV	ECV
<b>Panel B: Portfolio Choice</b>									
Outcome:	Individual Education Spending	Household Education Spending	Total Spending on Food	Total Monthly Expenditure	Has Car	Has Radio			
Subsidiado Bandwidth 2	-342 (4,963)	30,366 (25,733)	32,136 (104,871)	-33,826 (305,878)	0.07 (0.04)	0.14 (0.11)			
Subsidiado Bandwidth 3	2,599 (4,554)	28,059 (23,228)	-1,495 (88,770)	-320,415 (356,917)	0.08** (0.04)	0.14 (0.11)			
Subsidiado Bandwidth 4	2,613 (4,667)	25,670 (23,564)	18,654 (93,938)	-348,373 (374,759)	0.09** (0.04)	0.23** (0.10)			
Subsidiado Higher Order Polynomial - Bandwidth 2	-7,023 (11,759)	7,150 (46,641)	3,136 (185,284)	-776,577* (457,479)	0.09* (0.05)	0.19 (0.13)			
Subsidiado Higher Order Polynomial - Bandwidth 3	-2,350 (6,365)	27,095 (33,363)	27,129 (128,735)	-362,101 (396,651)	0.08* (0.05)	0.10 (0.12)			
Subsidiado Higher Order Polynomial - Bandwidth 4	1,842 (4,564)	28,281 (25,329)	14,132 (94,706)	-319,591 (348,511)	0.08* (0.04)	0.10 (0.11)			
Subsidiado without Municipio Fixed Effects - Bandwidth 2	3,595 (5,148)	40,950 (26,487)	-76 (125,627)	7,924 (448,543)	0.06 (0.05)	0.13 (0.14)			
Subsidiado without Municipio Fixed Effects - Bandwidth 3	4,882 (4,473)	31,351 (22,030)	-5,734 (105,874)	-315,118 (404,085)	0.08* (0.05)	0.17 (0.13)			
Subsidiado without Municipio Fixed Effects - Bandwidth 4	4,495 (4,832)	29,234 (23,487)	8,948 (114,144)	-466,629 (439,817)	0.08** (0.04)	0.27** (0.12)			
Data Source	ECV	ECV	ECV	ECV	DHS	DHS			

Individual-level "urban" data used from the 2003 ECV and 2005 DHS. Dependent variables are shown at the top of each column; all estimates are 2SLS estimates for enrollment in the Subsidized Regime (SR), instrumenting for SR enrollment using simulated eligibility. The first three rows report estimates using samples of individuals within two, three, and four SISBEN index points of county-specific eligibility thresholds (respectively). The fourth through sixth rows control for squared, cubic, and fourth power terms of SISBEN scores using samples of individuals within two, three, and four SISBEN index points of county-specific eligibility thresholds (respectively). The seventh through ninth rows do not condition on county fixed effects and use samples of individuals within two, three, and four SISBEN index points of county-specific eligibility thresholds (respectively). All specifications otherwise include SISBEN score, distance from the county-specific threshold, estrato dummy variables, and county fixed effects. Standard errors (clustered by household) are shown in parentheses below each estimate. \*p<0.10, \*\*p<0.05, \*\*\*p<0.01.

**APPENDIX 4 TABLE A2:  
ROBUSTNESS OF MEDICAL CARE USE RESULTS**

Model:	Preventive Physician Visit	Preventive Dentist Visit	Any Physician Visit	Any Physician or Nurse Visit	Waiting Time for Physician Visit (Days)	Hospital Stay	Medical Visit for Chronic Disease	Medical Check-up Following Birth	Tetanus Vaccination at Birth	Medical Care for Child Diarrhea	Curative Care Use Conditional on Illness	Curative Use not Conditional on Health Status	Growth and Dev. Program Registration	Has Growth and Dev. Card	Number of Growth Dev. Checks Last Year
Subsidiado Bandwidth 2	0.29* (0.17)	0.03 (0.16)	0.14** (0.06)	0.13** (0.06)	-13.44 (21.38)	-0.04 (0.06)	0.51 (0.34)	0.01 (0.17)	0.00 (0.13)	-1.62 (2.35)	0.11 (0.30)	-0.05 (0.19)	0.21 (0.18)	0.20 (0.18)	1.24* (0.74)
Subsidiado Bandwidth 3	0.20 (0.15)	0.10 (0.14)	0.15*** (0.06)	0.15*** (0.06)	-10.79 (17.57)	-0.05 (0.06)	0.26 (0.24)	-0.05 (0.17)	0.03 (0.12)	-0.53 (0.90)	0.25 (0.26)	-0.08 (0.18)	0.33* (0.18)	0.34* (0.18)	1.75** (0.73)
Subsidiado Bandwidth 4	0.24 (0.15)	0.07 (0.15)	0.16*** (0.06)	0.16*** (0.06)	-11.28 (15.96)	-0.03 (0.06)	0.60** (0.30)	-0.06 (0.16)	0.07 (0.13)	-0.54 (0.67)	0.26 (0.26)	-0.15 (0.19)	0.47** (0.20)	0.44** (0.19)	2.06*** (0.76)
Subsidiado Higher Order Polynomial - Bandwidth 2	0.40 (0.31)	0.31 (0.30)	0.23* (0.14)	0.23* (0.14)	12.89 (30.29)	-0.08 (0.13)	1.79 (2.13)	0.26 (0.21)	0.08 (0.14)	-0.53 (0.66)	0.07 (0.26)	-0.05 (0.19)	0.38 (0.20)	0.20 (0.19)	1.63** (0.80)
Subsidiado Higher Order Polynomial - Bandwidth 3	0.48** (0.22)	0.21 (0.19)	0.18** (0.08)	0.18** (0.08)	-4.95 (21.27)	-0.07 (0.08)	0.83 (0.65)	0.14 (0.18)	0.04 (0.14)	-1.21 (2.05)	0.29 (0.29)	0.03 (0.20)	0.26 (0.21)	0.25 (0.20)	1.18 (0.81)
Subsidiado Higher Order Polynomial - Bandwidth 4	0.26* (0.15)	0.09 (0.14)	0.14** (0.06)	0.14** (0.06)	-6.81 (17.02)	-0.03 (0.06)	0.21 (0.23)	0.00 (0.17)	0.08 (0.13)	-0.52 (1.02)	0.23 (0.26)	-0.05 (0.20)	0.23 (0.20)	0.26 (0.20)	1.67** (0.78)
Subsidiado without Municipio Fixed Effects - Bandwidth 2	0.46*** (0.18)	0.09 (0.15)	0.13** (0.06)	0.14** (0.06)	-12.03 (14.44)	0.00 (0.06)	0.41 (0.27)	-0.05 (0.20)	0.04 (0.13)	-0.79 (0.67)	-0.01 (0.28)	-0.18 (0.21)	0.08 (0.22)	0.08 (0.21)	0.86 (0.73)
Subsidiado without Municipio Fixed Effects - Bandwidth 3	0.32** (0.14)	0.14 (0.13)	0.14*** (0.05)	0.14*** (0.05)	-10.18 (12.76)	-0.01 (0.05)	0.22 (0.20)	-0.14 (0.18)	0.09 (0.12)	-0.24 (0.51)	0.07 (0.25)	-0.21 (0.20)	0.17 (0.21)	0.14 (0.20)	1.39* (0.71)
Subsidiado without Municipio Fixed Effects - Bandwidth 4	0.31* (0.16)	0.11 (0.15)	0.16*** (0.06)	0.16*** (0.06)	-8.38 (13.74)	0.00 (0.06)	0.55** (0.24)	-0.10 (0.18)	0.07 (0.12)	-0.44 (0.49)	0.10 (0.25)	-0.23 (0.20)	0.28 (0.20)	0.22 (0.20)	1.37* (0.71)
Data Source	ECV	ECV	ECV	ECV	ECV	ECV	ECV	DHS	DHS	DHS	DHS	DHS	DHS	DHS	DHS

Individual-level “urban” data used from the 2003 ECV and 2005 DHS. Dependent variables are shown at the top of each column; all estimates are 2SLS estimates for enrollment in the Subsidized Regime (SR), instrumenting for SR enrollment using simulated eligibility. The first three rows report estimates using samples of individuals within two, three, and four SISBEN index points of county-specific eligibility thresholds (respectively). The fourth through sixth rows control for squared, cubic, and fourth power terms of SISBEN scores using samples of individuals within two, three, and four SISBEN index points of county-specific eligibility thresholds (respectively). The seventh through ninth rows do not condition on county fixed effects and use samples of individuals within two, three, and four SISBEN index points of county-specific eligibility thresholds (respectively). All specifications otherwise include SISBEN score, distance from the county-specific threshold, estrato dummy variables, and county fixed effects. Standard errors (clustered by household) are shown in parentheses below each estimate. \*p<0.10, \*\*p<0.05, \*\*\*p<0.01.

**APPENDIX 4 TABLE A3:  
ROBUSTNESS OF HEALTH OUTCOME RESULTS**

Outcome:	Women's BMI	Child BMI	Birthweight (KG)	Child Days Lost to Illness	Adult Activity Days Lost	Chronic Disease	Child Diarrhea Last Two Weeks	Child Fever Last Two Weeks	Child Cough Last Two Weeks	Cough, Fever, Diarrhea	Any Health Problem	Excellent Self-Reported Health	Good Self-Reported Health	Fair Self-Reported Health
Subsidiado Bandwidth 2	-0.42 (0.83)	-0.36 (0.71)	-0.38 (0.33)	-1.30* (0.71)	0.80 (1.64)	0.06 (0.10)	-0.14 (0.16)	-0.11 (0.17)	-0.25 (0.22)	-0.35* (0.21)	-0.26 (0.19)	-0.12* (0.07)	-0.07 (0.14)	-0.07 (0.06)
Subsidiado Bandwidth 3	-0.03 (0.84)	-0.33 (0.73)	-0.31 (0.31)	-1.14 (0.73)	-0.57 (1.24)	-0.03 (0.08)	-0.09 (0.15)	-0.02 (0.16)	-0.28 (0.21)	-0.44** (0.21)	-0.45** (0.20)	-0.08 (0.06)	-0.01 (0.12)	-0.05 (0.05)
Subsidiado Bandwidth 4	0.15 (0.77)	-0.36 (0.80)	-0.16 (0.42)	-1.43* (0.80)	0.60 (1.28)	-0.03 (0.09)	-0.03 (0.16)	-0.13 (0.18)	-0.52** (0.24)	-0.59** (0.23)	-0.60*** (0.22)	-0.04 (0.06)	-0.07 (0.13)	-0.08 (0.05)
Subsidiado Higher Order Polynomial - Bandwidth 2	-0.68 (0.96)	0.05 (0.78)	-0.44 (0.34)	-1.05* (0.61)	2.38 (3.16)	-0.07 (0.18)	-0.03 (0.16)	-0.13 (0.19)	-0.25 (0.23)	-0.31 (0.21)	-0.21 (0.20)	-0.27* (0.16)	-0.13 (0.28)	-0.15 (0.13)
Subsidiado Higher Order Polynomial - Bandwidth 3	-0.16 (0.91)	-0.08 (0.77)	-0.28 (0.36)	-1.13 (0.70)	0.72 (1.88)	0.11 (0.12)	-0.04 (0.17)	-0.09 (0.19)	-0.24 (0.23)	-0.35 (0.23)	-0.26 (0.21)	-0.12 (0.08)	-0.07 (0.17)	-0.05 (0.07)
Subsidiado Higher Order Polynomial - Bandwidth 4	-0.06 (0.83)	-0.32 (0.78)	-0.33 (0.36)	-0.96 (0.74)	-0.16 (1.29)	0.04 (0.09)	-0.09 (0.17)	0.01 (0.18)	-0.24 (0.23)	-0.39* (0.23)	-0.39* (0.22)	-0.07 (0.06)	-0.08 (0.13)	-0.05 (0.05)
Subsidiado without Municipio Fixed Effects - Bandwidth 2	-0.24 (0.99)	-0.40 (0.74)	-0.51 (0.44)	-1.24* (0.72)	0.50 (1.31)	0.12 (0.09)	-0.11 (0.16)	-0.19 (0.19)	-0.28 (0.23)	-0.42* (0.23)	-0.37* (0.22)	-0.09 (0.07)	-0.10 (0.14)	-0.06 (0.05)
Subsidiado without Municipio Fixed Effects - Bandwidth 3	-0.03 (0.96)	-0.43 (0.75)	-0.55 (0.42)	-1.48** (0.75)	-0.75 (1.06)	0.02 (0.08)	-0.10 (0.16)	-0.16 (0.18)	-0.31 (0.22)	-0.49** (0.23)	-0.54** (0.23)	-0.06 (0.06)	-0.05 (0.12)	-0.05 (0.04)
Subsidiado without Municipio Fixed Effects - Bandwidth 4	-0.13 (0.88)	-0.34 (0.76)	-0.47 (0.52)	-1.72** (0.77)	0.03 (1.20)	0.00 (0.09)	-0.04 (0.15)	-0.27 (0.19)	-0.47** (0.23)	-0.59** (0.24)	-0.61*** (0.23)	-0.04 (0.06)	-0.07 (0.13)	-0.08 (0.05)
Data Source	DHS	DHS	DHS	DHS	ECV	ECV	DHS	DHS	DHS	DHS	DHS	ECV	ECV	ECV

Individual-level “urban” data used from the 2003 ECV and 2005 DHS. Dependent variables are shown at the top of each column; all estimates are 2SLS estimates for enrollment in the Subsidized Regime (SR), instrumenting for SR enrollment using simulated eligibility. The first three rows report estimates using samples of individuals within two, three, and four SISBEN index points of county-specific eligibility thresholds (respectively). The fourth through sixth rows control for squared, cubic, and fourth power terms of SISBEN scores using samples of individuals within two, three, and four SISBEN index points of county-specific eligibility thresholds (respectively). The seventh through ninth rows do not condition on county fixed effects and use samples of individuals within two, three, and four SISBEN index points of county-specific eligibility thresholds (respectively). All specifications otherwise include SISBEN score, distance from the county-specific threshold, estrato dummy variables, and county fixed effects. Standard errors (clustered by household) are shown in parentheses below each estimate. \*p<0.10, \*\*p<0.05, \*\*\*p<0.01.

**APPENDIX 4 TABLE A4:  
ROBUSTNESS OF BEHAVIORAL DISORTION RESULTS (*EX ANTE* MORAL HAZARD, ELIGIBILITY-RELATED BEHAVIOR, AND INSURANCE CROWD-OUT)**

Outcome:	<i>Ex-Ante</i> Moral Hazard					Eligibility-Related Behavior					
	Drank Alcohol during Pregnancy	Number of Drinks per Week during Pregnancy	Months Breastfed as Child	Folic Acid During Pregnancy	Number Months Folic Acid during Pregnancy	Hand washing	Ever Married	Current Birth Control Use	Currently Pregnant	Children Ever Born	Household Head Employed
Subsidiado Bandwidth 2	-0.05 (0.12)	-21.59 (136.39)	-0.82 (5.27)	0.15 (0.17)	0.52 (1.46)	-0.05 (0.09)	-0.07 (0.07)	-0.01 (0.08)	-0.04 (0.04)	-0.19 (0.25)	0.02 (0.08)
Subsidiado Bandwidth 3	0.02 (0.10)	1.20 (289.72)	-0.66 (4.63)	0.27 (0.17)	0.72 (1.17)	-0.11 (0.08)	-0.06 (0.07)	0.04 (0.08)	0.00 (0.04)	-0.20 (0.25)	0.04 (0.08)
Subsidiado Bandwidth 4	-0.01 (0.10)	6.39 (264.01)	-0.18 (4.91)	0.16 (0.16)	0.47 (1.17)	-0.02 (0.08)	-0.10 (0.07)	-0.02 (0.07)	-0.03 (0.03)	-0.12 (0.23)	0.09 (0.07)
Subsidiado Higher Order Polynomial - Bandwidth 2	-0.09 (0.14)	39.35 (428.76)	-0.79 (5.64)	0.04 (0.20)	2.82 (2.20)	-0.07 (0.11)	-0.04 (0.08)	0.00 (0.09)	-0.04 (0.04)	-0.14 (0.27)	-0.07 (0.08)
Subsidiado Higher Order Polynomial - Bandwidth 3	-0.02 (0.12)	0.10 (130.13)	-0.63 (5.55)	0.12 (0.18)	1.84 (1.63)	-0.02 (0.10)	-0.05 (0.08)	-0.02 (0.08)	-0.04 (0.04)	-0.07 (0.26)	-0.04 (0.08)
Subsidiado Higher Order Polynomial - Bandwidth 4	0.00 (0.11)	4.59 (106.85)	-0.46 (4.97)	0.18 (0.17)	1.08 (1.25)	-0.06 (0.09)	-0.05 (0.07)	0.03 (0.08)	-0.01 (0.04)	-0.22 (0.24)	-0.02 (0.07)
Subsidiado without Municipio Fixed Effects - Bandwidth 2	-0.06 (0.12)	-19.65 (56.39)	4.79 (5.24)	0.18 (0.19)	1.46 (1.47)	0.00 (0.10)	-0.10 (0.09)	-0.05 (0.09)	-0.05 (0.04)	-0.33 (0.29)	-0.01 (0.09)
Subsidiado without Municipio Fixed Effects - Bandwidth 3	-0.01 (0.11)	-10.84 (20.51)	3.66 (4.57)	0.25 (0.18)	0.86 (1.18)	-0.07 (0.09)	-0.10 (0.09)	0.01 (0.09)	-0.01 (0.04)	-0.31 (0.29)	0.05 (0.09)
Subsidiado without Municipio Fixed Effects - Bandwidth 4	-0.01 (0.11)	-3.43 (14.97)	2.91 (4.63)	0.14 (0.17)	0.91 (1.18)	0.00 (0.08)	-0.12 (0.08)	-0.05 (0.08)	-0.03 (0.04)	-0.23 (0.26)	0.08 (0.08)
Data Source	DHS	DHS	DHS	DHS	DHS	DHS	DHS	DHS	DHS	DHS	DHS

Individual-level “urban” data used from the 2003 ECV and 2005 DHS. Dependent variables are shown at the top of each column; all estimates are 2SLS estimates for enrollment in the Subsidized Regime (SR), instrumenting for SR enrollment using simulated eligibility. The first three rows report estimates using samples of individuals within two, three, and four SISBEN index points of county-specific eligibility thresholds (respectively). The fourth through sixth rows control for squared, cubic, and fourth power terms of SISBEN scores using samples of individuals within two, three, and four SISBEN index points of county-specific eligibility thresholds (respectively). The seventh through ninth rows do not condition on county fixed effects and use samples of individuals within two, three, and four SISBEN index points of county-specific eligibility thresholds (respectively). All specifications otherwise include SISBEN score, distance from the county-specific threshold, estrato dummy variables, and county fixed effects. Standard errors (clustered by household) are shown in parentheses below each estimate. \*p<0.10, \*\*p<0.05, \*\*\*p<0.01.