

Kurt R. Brekke

Contact information

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Academic degrees

- Dr. Polit (PhD in Economics), University of Bergen, 2004
 - Thesis title: “Five Essays on Competition and Regulation in Health Care Markets”
- Cand. Polit. (MSc in Economics), University of Bergen, 1996
- Cand. Mag. (BA in Social Sciences), University of Bergen, 1994

Employment

- Head of department, Department of Economics, Norwegian School of Economics (NHH), 2021-5
- Professor, Norwegian School of Economics (NHH), Dept. of Econ., 2009-present
- Chief Economist, Norwegian Competition Authority, 2016-20
- Associate Professor, Norwegian School of Economics (NHH), Dept. of Econ., 2008-9
- Post.doc., Norwegian School of Economics (NHH), Dept. of Econ., 2005-8
- Senior researcher, Institute for Research in Business and Economics (SNF), 2004-5
- Doctoralstudent (Ph.D. in Economics), Dept. of Econ., University of Bergen, 2000-4
- Researcher, Institute for Research in Business and Economics (SNF), 1998-2000
- Adviser/Consultant, Norwegian Competition Authority, 1996-98
- Teaching assistant, Dept. of Econ., University of Bergen, 1994-96

Professional appointments

- Head of the Centre for Business Economics (CBE) at NHH, 2020-21
- Program committee leader, NHH Høstkonsferansen, 2015–2016
- Co-manager, BECCLE, 2015–2016

- Head of the NHH Centre for Industrial Organisation, 2015–2016
- Program leader, IO and Competition Policy, SNF, 2014–2016
- Head of master profile in Economics (ECN), NHH, 2013–2016
- Member of Government Committee on National Public Procurement Regulation (Forenklingsutvalget), December 2012–June 2014
 - NOU 2014:4 "Enklere regler – bedre anskaffelser — Forenkling av det norske anskaffelsesregelverket" (Nærings- og fiskeridepartementet)
- Board member, Department of Economics, NHH, 2009–2013
- Teaching coordinator, Department of Economics, NHH, 2009–2013
- Board member, Master program committee (PMU), NHH, 2011–2013

Teaching

- Competition analysis (Konkurransanalyse), Industrial Organization (Næringsøkonomi), Competitive Strategy, Health Economics and the Pharmaceutical Industry. (All NHH courses at master level).
- Health Management and Economics, Executive course, University of Bergen.

Affiliations

- Research Fellow, CESifo, Munich, 2004–
- Research Associate, Centre for Applied Research at NHH (SNF), 2005–
- Research Associate, Bergen Center for Competition Law and Economics (BECCLE), 2011–

Editorial boards

- Associate Editor, Journal of Economic Behavior and Organization, 2011–2016
- Associate Editor, Nordic Journal of Health Economics, 2011 –

International (peer-review) publications

1. "Hospital competition in a National Health Service: Evidence from a patient choice reform" (with Chiara Canta, Luigi Siciliani, Odd Rune Straume), Journal of Health Economics 79 (2021)
2. "How does the type of remuneration affect physician behaviour? Fixed salary versus fee-for-service" (with Tor Helge Holmås, Karin Monstad, Odd Rune Straume). American Journal of Health Economics, 6, 104-138, 2020.

3. "Competition and physician behaviour: Does the competitive environment affect the propensity to issue sickness certificates?" (with Tor Helge Holmås, Karin Monstad, Odd Rune Straume). *Journal of Health Economics*, 66, 117-135, 2019.
4. "Can competition reduce quality?" (with Luigi Siciliani, Odd Rune Straume), *Journal of Institutional and Theoretical Economics*, 174, 421-447, 2018.
5. "Socio-economic status and physicians' treatment decisions" (with Tor Helge Holmås, Karin Monstad, Odd Rune Straume), *Health Economics*, 27, e77-e89, 2018.
6. "Horizontal mergers and product quality" (with Luigi Siciliani, Odd Rune Straume), *Canadian Journal of Economics*, 50, 1063-1103, 2017.
7. "Capital Taxation and Imperfect Competition: ACE vs. CBIT", (with Armando J. Garcia, Pires, Dirk Schindler, Guttorm Schjelderup), *Journal of Public Economics*, Volume 147, March 2017, Pages 1–15.
8. "Do treatment decisions depend on physicians' financial incentives?" (with Tor Helge Holmås, Karin Monstad, Odd Rune Straume), *Journal of Public Economics*, 155, 74-92, 2017.
9. "Hospital mergers with regulated prices" (with Luigi Siciliani, Odd Rune Straume), *Scandinavian Journal of Economics*, 119, 597-627, 2017.
10. "Competition policy for health care provision in Norway" (with Odd Rune Straume), *Health Policy*, 121, 134-140, 2017.
11. "Patient mobility and health care quality when regions and patients differ in income" (with Rosella Levaggi, Luigi Siciliani, Odd Rune Straume), *Journal of Health Economics*, 50, 372-387, 2016.
12. "Reference pricing with endogenous generic entry" (with Chiara Canta, Odd Rune Straume), *Journal of Health Economics*, 50, 312-329, 2016.
13. "Price regulation and parallel imports of pharmaceuticals" (with Tor Helge Holmås, Odd Rune Straume), *Journal of Public Economics*, 129, 92-105, 2015.
14. "Hospital competition with soft budgets" (with Luigi Siciliani, Odd Rune Straume), *Scandinavian Journal of Economics*, 117, 1019-1048, 2015.
15. "Patient mobility, health care quality and welfare" (with Rosella Levaggi, Luigi Siciliani), *Journal of Economic Behavior & Organization*, 105, 140-157, 2014.
16. "Diffusion of Pharmaceuticals: Cross-Country Evidence of Anti-TNF drugs" (with Dag Morten Dalen and Tor Helge Holmås), *European Journal of Health Economics*, 15, 937-951, 2013.
17. "Margins and market shares: pharmacy incentives for generic substitution" (with Tor Helge Holmås and Odd Rune Straume), *European Economic Review* 61, 116-131, 2013.
18. "Quality competition with profit constraints" (with Luigi Siciliani and Odd Rune Straume), *Journal of Economic Behavior & Organization* 84, 642-659, 2012.
19. "Should pharmaceutical costs be curbed?" (with Dag Morten Dalen and Steinar Strøm), *Nordic Economic Policy Review* 2, 1-27, 2012.

20. "Competition and quality in regulated markets with sluggish demand" (with Roberto Cellini, Luigi Siciliani and Odd Rune Straume), *Journal of Economics & Management Strategy* 21, 131-178, 2012.
21. "Reference pricing, competition and pharmaceutical prices: theory and evidence from a natural experiment" (with Tor Helge Holmås and Odd Rune Straume), *Journal of Public Economics* 95, 624-638, 2011.
22. "Hospital competition and quality with regulated prices" (with Luigi Siciliani and Odd Rune Straume), *Scandinavian Journal of Economics* 113, 444-469, 2011.
23. "Price and quality in spatial competition" (with Luigi Siciliani and Odd Rune Straume), *Regional Science and Urban Economics* 40, 471-480, 2010.
24. "Competition and quality in health care markets: a differential-game approach" (with Roberto Cellini, Luigi Siciliani and Odd Rune Straume). *Journal of Health Economics* 29, 508-523, 2010.
25. "Pharmaceutical patents: incentives for research & development or marketing?" (with Odd Rune Straume), *Southern Economic Journal* 76, 351-374, 2009.
26. "Regulation and pricing of pharmaceuticals: price cap or reference pricing?" (with Astrid L. Grasdal and Tor Helge Holmås). *European Economic Review* 53, 170-185, 2009.
27. "Competition and waiting times in hospital markets" (with Luigi Siciliani and Odd Rune Straume). *Journal of Public Economics* 92 (2008) 1607-1628.
28. "Reference pricing of pharmaceuticals" (with Ingrid Königbauer and Odd Rune Straume). *Journal of Health Economics* 26 (2007) 613-642.
29. "Private versus public health care in a National Health Service", (with Lars Sørsgard). *Health Economics* 16 (2007) 579-601.
30. "Gatekeeping in health care", (with Robert Nuscheler and Odd Rune Straume), *Journal of Health Economics* 26 (2007) 149-170.
31. "Quality and location choices under price regulation" (with Odd Rune Straume and Robert Nuscheler). *Journal of Economics & Management Strategy* 15 (2006) 207-227.
32. "Direct to consumer advertising in pharmaceutical markets" (with Michael Kuhn). *Journal of Health Economics* 25 (2006) 102-130.
 - Reprinted in *Recent Developments in the Economics of Advertising*, edited by Simon P. Anderson, Edward Elgar Publishing (2016), pp. 110-138
33. "Bilateral monopolies and location choices" (with Odd Rune Straume). *Regional Science and Urban Economics* 34 (2004) 275-288.
34. "Competition or coordination in hospital markets with unionised labour", *International Journal of Health Care Finance & Economics* 4 (2004) 65-89.

Publications in Norwegian (journals and newspaper articles)

1. "Fusjonskontrollen: Hjelper avhjelpende tiltak?" (with Eileen Fumagalli, Jan Gaute Sannarnes), *Samfunnsøkonomen*, 2021.
2. "Ikke sett konkurransen på spill" (with Sindre A. Svendsen) *Dagens Næringsliv* 8 July 2020 <https://www.dn.no/innlegg/teknologisk/microsoft/ikke-sett-konkurransen-pa-spill/2-1-838686>
3. "Vi har ikke amerikanske «monopol-tendenser» i norsk økonomi". *Dagens Næringsliv*, 28 January 2020.
4. "Feil behandling av legemiddelmangel". *Dagens Medisin* 23 January 2020.
5. "Vi trenger flere leger, ikke dyrere leger". *Dagens Næringsliv*, 8 December 2019.
6. "Effekter av konkurransereglene for norske forbrukere" (with Lars Sjørgard og Andreas J. Tveito), *Samfunnsøkonomen*, 1, 2019.
7. "Fastleger på fastlønn er neppe løsningen". *Dagens Næringsliv*, 24 January 2019.
8. "Vi får mer medisin for pengene". *Bergens Tidende*, 20 October 2018.
9. "Roboter, pris og fremtidens kartell" (with Katrine Reiso). *Dagens Næringsliv*, 29 July 2018
10. "Fusjoner, innovasjon og konkurranseregler", *Finansavisen (innovasjon og forskning.no)*, 16 February 2018.
11. "Gigantkonsern er feil medisin". *Dagens Næringsliv*, 5 April 2017.
12. "Norge er blant de billigste landene i Europa på legemidler", Article in *Bergens Tidende* 17. March 2011, p. 38 (with Tor Helge Holmås and Odd Rune Straume).
13. "NRK langt fra sannheten om pris på legemidler", Article in *forskning.no* 17. March 2011: <http://www.forskning.no/artikler/2011/mars/282571> (with Tor Helge Holmås and Odd Rune Straume).
14. "Direkte-til-konsumenten-reklame for reseptpliktige legemidler", *SNF-Bulletin* 15 (2003): 18–21.
15. "Fra forvaltning til monopol i den norske sykehussektoren", *Økonomisk Forum* 4 (2002): 13–19.
16. "Er konkurranse en god ide i helsesektoren?", in Askildsen, J.E. and K. Haug (red): *Helse, økonomi og politikk. Udfordringer for det norske helsevesen*. Cappelen Akademiske forlag, Oslo. Ch. 11 (2001) (with Jan Erik Askildsen).
17. "Hva vet vi om konkurranseutsetting?", *Magma – Tidsskrift for økonomi og ledelse* 2 (1999): 29–39.
18. "Konkurranseutsetting i kommunal sektor", *Forsyning (KSI)* 1 (1997): 5–13 (with Einar Hope).

Reports and book chapters

1. "Quality and Price Competition in Spatial Markets" (with Luigi Siciliani, Odd Rune Straume). Chapter 1 in *Spatial Economics* Volume I: Theory. Palgrave Macmillan 2020

2. "Measuring market power in multi-sided markets". Chapter 4 in *Rethinking Antitrust Tools for Multi-Sided Platforms*. OECD report 2018: <https://www.oecd.org/competition/rethinking-antitrust-tools-for-multi-sided-platforms.htm>
3. "Non-price effects of mergers". Contribution to *OECD roundtable* on June 2018 meeting in Competition Committee, Paris.
4. "Hospital quality competition: a review of the theoretical literature" (with Hugh Gravelle, Luigi Siciliani, Odd Rune Straume). In *Competition between Hospitals: Does it Affect Quality of Care?*. Paris: PSL Universite Paris CEPREMAP, 2018.
5. "Differential Games in Health-Care Markets: Models of Quality Competition with Fixed Prices" (with Roberto Cellini, Luigi Siciliani, Odd Rune Straume). In *Advances in Dynamic and Mean Field Games*. Theory, Applications, and Numerical Methods. Birkhäuser Verlag, 2017.
6. "Patients' choice, mobility and competition among health care providers" (with Hugh Gravelle, Luigi Siciliani and Odd Rune Straume). Chapter 1 in *Health Care Provision and Patient Mobility - Health Integration in the European Union* (edited by Rosella Levaggi and Marcello Montefiori), *Developments in Health Economics and Public Policy* 12, 2014, 1-26, Springer.
7. "Priser på reseptpliktige legemidler i Norge og Sverige for 2013-2014", (with Tor Helge Holmås). (Norwegian Pharmacy Association)
8. "Prices of Pharmaceuticals: A Comparison of Prescription Drug Prices in Sweden with Nine European Countries". Report no. 01/12, Institute for Research in Economics and Business Administration (SNF), 2012. (LIF - research based pharmaceutical industry)
9. "Comparing Pharmaceutical Prices in Europe." (with Tor Helge Holmås and Odd Rune Straume). Report no. 11/11, Institute for Research in Economics and Business Administration (SNF), 2011. (Norwegian Pharmacy Association)
10. "Are Pharmaceuticals Still Inexpensive in Norway?" (with Tor Helge Holmås and Odd Rune Straume). Report no. 08/10, Institute for Research in Economics and Business Administration (SNF), 2010. (Norwegian Pharmacy Association)
11. "Er legemidler fremdeles billig i Norge? En sammenligning av priser på reseptpliktige legemidler mellom Norge og ni vest-europeiske land" (with Tor Helge Holmås and Odd Rune Straume). Report no. 06/09, Institute for Research in Economics and Business Administration (SNF), 2009. (Norwegian Pharmacy Association)
12. "Er legemidler billig i Norge? En sammenligning av priser på reseptpliktige legemidler mellom Norge og ni vest-europeiske land" (with Tor Helge Holmås og Odd Rune Straume). Report no. 05/08, Institute for Research in Economics and Business Administration (SNF), 2008. (Ministry of Health and Social Affairs)
13. "Konkurransen i spesialisthelsetjenesten?" (with Christian Andersen, Egil Kjerstad, Frode Kristiansen, Odd Rune Straume, Kjell Sunnevåg). Report no. 25/06, Institute for Research in Economics and Business Administration (SNF), 2006. (Norwegian Competition Authority)
14. "Økonomisk verdsetting av apotekjenester". Rapport 17/05, Samfunns- og næringslivsforskning, 2005. (with Christian Andersen, Tom Eldegard, Ghazala Naz, Kjell Sunnevåg).

15. "Pris- og avanseregulering i legemiddelmarkedet: En prinsipiell diskusjon og en vurdering av den norske modellen". Notat 20, Rokkansenteret, 2003. (with Odd Rune Straume).
16. "Evaluering av ny apoteklov og indeksprissystemet". Rapport 17, Rokkansenteret, 2003 (with Astrid Grasdahl, Tor Helge Holmås, Frode Steen, Kjell Sunnevåg)
17. "Effektivitet, ressursbruk og konkurranseutsetting i kommunesektoren – En gjennomgang av empiriske studier". SNF-rapport 4/99, 1999. (with Jan Erik Askildsen, Finn R. Førsum, Kjell Ove Kallhagen).
18. "Offentlig sektor som tilbyder eller produsent? – Noen synspunkter på oppgavefordeling mellom privat og offentlig sektor". SNF-rapport 11/99, 1999, (with Kåre P. Hagen).
19. "Konkurranseutsetting av kommunal virksomhet". Rapport fra de nordiske konkurransemyndigheter. Nr. 1, 1998 (sekretær for utvalget).
20. "Konkurranseeksponering av offentlig sektor". Arbeidsnotat 31. mars, 1998, Arbeids- og administrasjonsdepartementet (sekretær for Undrum-utvalget).
21. "Ekskluderende vertikale bindinger og lineære tariffer i franchisekontrakter – En studie av det norske bilmarkedet". SNF-rapport 92/96, 1996.

Invited presentations and seminars

- Hospital competition in the NHS: Evidence from a patient choice reform. Faculty seminar, Université Paris Dauphine, 13 April 2021.
- Expert witness testimony before higher court (Lagmansretten) in case against Telenor for violating competition law by abuse of dominance (konkurranseloven § 11), 28 January 2021, Bergen.
- Telenor abuse case: Limiting roll-out for 3rd mobile network in Norway. EuroComp, 14 June 2019, Bern.
- Pharmaceutical procurement practices: Public price announcement or secrecy? The annual Norwegian health economics conference, 28 May 2019, Solstrand.
- Incentivising competition: Health care in Norway. OECD workshop Publicly funded markets, 28 February 2019, Paris.
- Public announcement of prices on hospital medicines in public procurement. Oral hearing before Parliament (health committee), 31 January 2019, Oslo.
- Merger control and efficiency defence. Annual Norwegian Competition Law conference, 20 September 2019, Sandefjord.
- Challenges in the Digital Economy from a competition policy perspective. NHH conference on taxation and regulation in a digital economy, 2 October 2018, Bergen.
- Merger remedies: Some lessons from Norway. Nordic CE meeting, 9 May 2018, Helsinki.
- Competition closeness: An economic perspective. Annual competition law conference, 1 June 2017, Bergen.

- Mergers, remedies and national pricing. BECCLE seminar, 18 October 2017, Bergen.
- Competition policy in hospitals markets in Norway. Competition Policy conference, Erasmus Univeristy Rotterdam, 29-30 May 2017.
- Norwegian Business School (BI), Department of Economics, Oslo, November 19, 2014.
- University of Southern Denmark, Department of Business and Economics, Odense, November 5, 2014.
- ETH Zürich, Department of Management, Technology and Economics, Zürich, October 27, 2014.
- University of Manchester, Health Economics Workshop, February, 2013.
- University of Zurich, Department of Business Administration, April, 2011.
- University of Manchester, Department of Economics, November 2010.
- University of Augsburg, Department of Economics, June 2009.
- University of Minho, Department of Economics, NIPE, June 2008.
- University of Oslo, Department of Health Economics and Management, May 2008.
- University of York, Department of Economics, October 2006.
- University of Konstanz, Department of Economics, April 2005.
- Wissenschaftszentrum Berlin, March 2003.
- Centre for Health Economics, University of York, October 2002.

Refereeing

B.E. Journal of Economic Analysis & Policy; CESifo Economic Studies; European Economic Review; European Journal of Health Economics; Health Economics; Health Policy; Journal of Economics; Journal of Economic Behavior & Organization; Journal of Economics & Management Strategy; Journal of European Economic Association, Journal of Health Economics; Journal of Public Economics; Journal of Regulatory Economics; Nordic Journal of Health Economics; Papers in Regional Science; Portugese Economic Journal, Social Science and Medicine; Southern Economic Journal, Økonomisk Forum.

Administrative Experience and Committee work

Project Management

- Project leader of SNF-project "Competition in hospital markets", 2015-16, Price Regulation Fund, NCA, 1.5 million NOK.
- Project leader of "Competition Policy for Health Care Provision in Norway", The Health Foundation, 50.000 GBP.
- Project leader of SNF-project "Internasjonal sammenligning av legemiddelpriser i Sverige og Vest-Europa", November 2011 –Februar 2012, LIF –Swedish Association of Pharmaceutical Industry".

- Project leader of SNF-project “Internasjonal sammenligning av legemiddelpriser i Norge og Vest-Europa”, January 2011 –October 2011, The Norwegian Pharmacy Association, NOK 1.000.000.
- Project leader of SNF-project “Internasjonal sammenligning av legemiddelpriser i Norge og Vest-Europa”, October 2009 –May 2010, The Norwegian Pharmacy Association, NOK 1.000.000.
- Project leader of SNF-project “Internasjonal sammenligning av legemiddelpriser i Norge og Vest-Europa”, October 2008 –May 2009, The Norwegian Pharmacy Association, NOK 1.000.000.
- Project leader of SNF-project “Kartlegging og sammenligning av priser på legemidler i Norge og Vest-Europa”, October 2007 –Mai 2008, Ministry of Health, NOK 1.250.000.
- Project leader of SNF-project “Konkurranse i spesialisthelsetjenesten”, October 2005 – August 2006, The Norwegian Competition Authority, NOK 1.020.000.
- Project leader of Rokkan-project ”Pris- og avanseregulering i legemiddelmarkedet”, February - Desember 2003, The Norwegian Pharmacy Association, NOK 500.000.