



THE JACOBS CENTER  
RESEARCH SEMINAR SERIES

*PROF. DR. DANIEL REES*

University of Colorado  
Denver, U.S.A.

***PUBLIC HEALTH EFFORTS AND THE DECLINE IN URBAN MORTALITY***

Using data on 25 major American cities for the period 1900-1940, we explore the effects of municipal-level public health efforts that were viewed as critical in the fight against food- and water-borne diseases. In addition to studying interventions such as treating sewage and setting strict bacteriological standards for milk, which have received little attention in the literature, we provide new evidence on the effects of water filtration and chlorination, extending the work of previous scholars. Contrary to the consensus view, we find that none of the interventions under study contributed substantially to the observed declines in total and infant mortality.

**Friday, October 25, 2019, 10:00 h**

At the Jacobs Center for Productive Youth Development  
Andreasstrasse 15, 4th floor, AND 4.19, 8050 Zürich

*Individual meetings with Prof. Rees are available,  
if interested please contact Maria Schönholzer at [maria.schoenholzer@jacobscenter.uzh.ch](mailto:maria.schoenholzer@jacobscenter.uzh.ch)*