





The Jacobs Center
Research Seminar Series

## Prof. Dr. Hans Henrik Sievertsen

**University of Bristol School of Economics** 

## Antibiotics in Early Childhood and Subsequent Cognitive Skills

Antibiotics are among the most commonly prescribed drugs for children. However, they may have side effects with long-run implications. Recent evidence based on animal experiments suggests that usage at early ages can adversely affect the development of cognitive skills. Prof. Sievertsen and his colleagues use Danish population-wide administrative data to link early-childhood antibiotic use to school test results. Idiosyncratic variation across GPs in their propensity to prescribe antibiotics enables us to identify effects on cognition in a medically meaningful range. Prof. Sievertsen and team find significant adverse effects that are not related to other patterns in GP behavior. Results are corroborated by sibling fixed-effects analyses.

Friday, April 23, 2021, 10:00 h