

## PAUL RODRÍGUEZ-LESMES

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### PROFILE

Paul Rodriguez-Lesmes is an Associate Professor and Head of the Graduate School, at the School of Economics at the Universidad del Rosario. He is currently a member of the iHEA Board of Directors as the Latin American representative, a member of the LACEA Latin American and Caribbean Health Economics Network (LAHEN), and a regular contributor to the Colombian Institute for Health Technology Assessment (IETS), the Colombian Fund for High Cost Disease (CAC), and the Inter-American Development Bank. He holds a PhD in Economics from University College London (2016), and worked with the World Bank and the Institute for Fiscal Studies (IFS) in the UK. His research focuses mainly on the area of health economics, in terms of policies associated with healthy behaviours and chronic disease prevention; demographics and child development; regulation of health markets such as pharmaceuticals or personnel; and financing and universal coverage of health services. He also works in the areas of entrepreneurship and microestablishments, informal economic activity and labour markets, from an applied microeconomics perspective.

CVLAC: <https://scienti.minciencias.gov.co/cvlac/visualizador/generarCurriculoCv.do?cod,h=0001362538>

ORCID: <http://orcid.org/0000-0003-1058-3062>

Google Scholar: <https://scholar.google.es/citations?user=lfUGH6EAAAAJhl=esoi=ao>

REPEC: <https://ideas.repec.org/f/pro424.html>

Perfil URosario: <https://pure.urosario.edu.co/en/persons/paul-andres-rodriguez-lesmes>

### CONTACT DETAILS

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**Calle 12 C No. 4 - 69**

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**Bogotá, D.C. - Colombia**

### EDUCATION

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**PhD, Economics, University College London**

**Thesis title: "Essays on the Economics of Health"**

**Completed: December 2016**

**MRes (Merit), Economics, University College London, 2012**

**MSc (Best GPA), Economics, Universidad del Rosario, 2011**

**BA (Best GPA), Economics, Universidad del Rosario, 2009**

### RESEARCH FIELDS

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**Economics of Health, Economics of Education, Applied Microeconomics**

### PUBLISHED PAPERS

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**Guerra Cújar, M. E., Prem, M., Rodríguez-Lesmes, P., & Vargas, J. F. (2024). The Peace Baby Boom: Evidence from Colombia's peace agreement with the FARC. *Journal of Human Resources* (Forthcoming)**

**Espinosa, O., Bejarano, V., Sanabria, C., Rodríguez, J., Basto, S., Rodríguez-Lesmes, P., Robayo, A (2023). Detecting unexpected growths in health technologies expenditures: the case of MIPRES in Colombia. *BMC Health Serv Res* 23, 1153. <https://doi.org/10.1186/s12913-023-10155-w>**

Gutierrez, L.; Rodríguez-Lesmes, P. (2023). Informal versus formal: microfirms' productivity gaps. *World Development*, 165 (106205). <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.worlddev.2023.106205>

Augsburg, B., Baquero, J. P., Gautam, S., & Rodriguez-Lesmes, P. (2023). Sanitation and Marriage Markets in India: Evidence from the Total Sanitation Campaign. *Journal of Development Economics*, 163:103092. <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.jdeveco.2023.103092>

Pinilla-Roncancio, M.; Amaya-Lara, J.; Cedeño-Ocampo, G.; Rodríguez-Lesmes, P.; Sepúlveda, C. (2023). Catastrophic Healthcare Payments and Multidimensional Poverty: Are they related? *Health Econ.* 2023 Aug;32(8):1689-1709. doi: 10.1002/hec.4684. Epub 2023 Apr 5. PMID: 37020350.

Gómez-Maldonado, A.; Ospina-Espita, L.; Rodríguez-Lesmes, P.; Rodríguez-Rodríguez, M. A. (2023). Barriers and opportunities for waste pickers within solid waste management policy in Colombia. *Waste Management*, 163. pp 1-11. <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.wasman.2023.03.020>.

Urueña, JC.; Gutierrez, LH.; Rodríguez-Lesmes, P. (2023). Financial inclusion and business practices of microbusiness in Colombia. *Eurasian Business Review*. <https://doi.org/10.1007/s40821-022-00231-2>

Otálvaro, S.; Gallego, J.; Rodríguez-Lesmes, P. (2023) De-normalising smoking in urban areas: Public smoking bans and smoking prevalence. *Economics & Human Biology*, 48, 101202. DOI: <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.ehb.2023.101202>

Andia, A.; Mantilla, M.; Morales, M.; Ortiz, O.; Rodríguez-Lesmes, P (2022). Does price-cap regulation work for increasing access to contraceptives? Aggregate- and pharmacy-level evidence from Colombia. *Social Science & Medicine*, , 311, 115312. <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.socscimed.2022.115312>

García MF, Hessel P, Rodríguez-Lesmes P (2022) Wealth and inequality gradients for the detection and control of hypertension in older individuals in middle-income economies around 2007-2015. *PLoS ONE* 17(7): e0269118. <https://doi.org/10.1371/journal.pone.0269118>

Góngora-Salazar, P., Casabianca, M. & Rodríguez-Lesmes, P. Income inequality and self-rated health status in Colombia. *Int J Equity Health* 21, 69 (2022). <https://doi.org/10.1186/s12939-022-01659-8>

Casabianca, M.S., Gallego, J.M., Góngora, P., Rodríguez-Lesmes, P. (2022). Price elasticity of demand for voluntary health insurance plans in Colombia. *BMC Health Services Research* 22, 618. <https://doi.org/10.1186/s12913-022-07899-2>

Espinosa, O; Rodríguez-Lesmes, P; Orozco, E; Ávila, D; Enríquez, H; Romano, G; Ceballos, M; (2022). Estimating Cost-Effectiveness Thresholds Under a Managed Healthcare System: Experiences from Colombia, *Health Policy and Planning*, 37(3), p.359–368, <https://doi.org/10.1093/heapol/czab146>

Andia, A.; Mantilla, M.; Morales, M.; Ortiz, O.; Rodríguez-Lesmes, P (2021). Extracting low-cost signals of quality control in community pharmacies: a simulated client study in Bogotá. *Lecturas De Economía*, (96). <https://doi.org/10.17533/udea.le.n96a344243>

Rodríguez-Lesmes, P (2021). Estimating the gains of early detection of hypertension over the marginal patient. *PLOS ONE*. Published online first: 9 July 2021.

González-Vélez, A. E., Palomino-Cancino, A., Díaz-de-Salamanca, I. D. V., Rodríguez-Campos, L. F., Quintero-Cardona, Y. A., & Rodríguez-Lesmes, P. A. (2021). Assessment of the Sanitas Health Promoter Entity's Contigo Program on Quality of Life and Medical Costs: A Cross-Sectional Study. *Nursing Economic\$,* 39(6).

Gallego, JM; Otálvaro-Ramirez, S.; Rodríguez Lesmes, P. (2021). Price smoking participation elasticity in Colombia: estimates by age and socioeconomic level. *Tobacco Control*. 30, 1, p. 36-41 6 p.

Augsburg, B., & Rodríguez-Lesmes, P. (2020). Sanitation dynamics: toilet acquisition and its economic and social implications in rural and urban contexts. *Journal of Water, Sanitation and Hygiene for Development*, 10.4 (2020): 628-641 .

Gallego, JM; Llorente, B; Maldonado, N; Otalvaro, S; Paraje, G; Rodríguez-Lesmes, P (2020). Tobacco taxes and illicit cigarette trade in Colombia. *Economics & Human Biology* 39, 100902.

Hessel, P.; Rodríguez Lesmes, P.; Torres, D. (2020). Socio-economic inequalities in high blood pressure and additional risk factors for cardiovascular disease among older individuals in Colombia: results

from a nationally representative study. *PLOS ONE*, 15(6), e0234326. <https://doi.org/10.1371/journal.pone.0234326>

Andia, T; Mantilla, C; Rodríguez-Lesmes, P; Criado, L; Gómez, JS; Ortiz, S; Quintero, A; Rincón, F; Romero, S (2020). Information and symptoms assessment in community pharmacies during the COVID-19 pandemic: An audit study in Colombia. *Journal of Behavioral Economics for Policy*, Vol. 4, COVID-19 Special Issue 2, 5-14.

Gallego, JM; Llorente, B; Maldonado, N; Otalvaro, S; Paraje, G; Rodríguez-Lesmes, P (2020). Tobacco taxes and illicit cigarette trade in Colombia. *Economics & Human Biology*: 39, 100902.

Gamboa, LF.; Rodríguez-Lesmes, P (2019). The fertility-inhibiting effect of mosquitoes: socio-economic differences in response to the Zika crisis in Colombia. *Economics & Human Biology*: 35, pp. 63-72.

Barron, Gamboa, Rodríguez-Lesmes (2019). Behavioural Response to a Sudden Health Risk: Dengue and Educational Outcomes in Colombia. *Journal of Development Studies*, Vol. 55 Issue 4, pp 620-644.

Gamboa, Rodríguez-Lesmes (2018). Subjective Earnings and Academic Expectations of Tertiary Education in Colombia. *Ensayos sobre Política Económica*, Vol 36 No 86.

Augsburg, Rodríguez-Lesmes (2018). Sanitation and child health in India. *World Development*, Volume 107, Pages 22-39.

Rodríguez-Lesmes, P.; Trujillo, J.; Valderrama, D. (2014). Are public libraries improving quality of education? When the public good provision is not enough. *Desarrollo y Sociedad*, pp. 225-274.

Acevedo, L.; Rodríguez-Lesmes, P. (2008). Panem et Circenses, ¿Educación pública de calidad o redistribución? Efectos de la provisión de un bien privado y su calidad por parte del sector público, sobre el crecimiento y la distribución del ingreso. *Revista de Economía del Rosario*. 11 (1).

## TEACHING EXPERIENCE

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Universidad del Rosario. Since 2017.

- Microeconometrics [Seminario Modelos Microeconómicos] (MSc)
- Health economics [Seminario de Economía de la Salud] (Bsc)
- Econometrics I [Econometría Básica] (BSc.)

Teaching Assistant. University College London. 2013-2016.

- Health Economics (MSc). (Prof. Marcos Vera-Hernandez)
- Programme Evaluation for Users (MSc). (Prof. Uta Schoenberg)
- Economics of Development (MSc). (Prof. Iftikhar Hussain)
- Economics of Development (BSc.). (Prof. Beatriz Armendariz)

Adjunct Professor. Universidad del Rosario. 2011.

- Microeconomics for Business (BSc.)

Training Course Assistant. Cemmap. 2013-2014.

Stata Instructor. Software Shop (Bogota, Colombia). 2010 - 2011

Undergraduate Teaching Assistant. Universidad del Rosario. 2007-2009.

## RESEARCH AND CONSULTANT POSITIONS

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Short Term Consultant. Deep Dive on Non-agricultural Labor Productivity Project. Poverty and Equity Global Practice. 2024.

In this project, we aim to understand recent changes in labour productivity and the extent to which household incomes diversified over the last 5 years. I led the analysis of labour and firm survey data for Senegal, Guinea-Bissau, and Gambia.

Short Term Consultant. Health Tax Window Project. World Bank. Health Nutrition & Population LCR. 2023-2024.

**In this project, we aim to generate knowledge to support the advancement of accurate implementation of health taxes as effective instruments for the country's health, fiscal and development policy. I was in charge of the monitoring components and participated in the measurement and evaluation components.**

**External consultant. INCAE. 2023.**

**Researcher of the impact evaluation of KICHI, a pedagogical strategy to improve awareness on human trafficking among girls and adolescents in Costa Rica, funded by the World Bank.**

**External consultant. Analisis of the generic drug market in Chile. Social Protection and Health Division (IDB) 2020.**

**In this project we explore the level of competition of the generic drug market in Chile, including an analysis of market failures and policy recommendations.**

**External consultant. Estimation of the Colombian cost-effectiveness threshold. Instituto de Evaluación Tecnológica en Salud (IETS) 2020.**

**In this project we estimate the cost-effectiveness threshold for Colombia. My role was support the data analytics and econometric teams in the design and implementation of the empirical strategy.**

**External consultant. Pharmaceutical prices regulation in Colombia. Instituto de Evaluación Tecnológica en Salud (IETS). 2019.**

**In this project we estimated the impact of external reference pricing regulation in Colombia. My role was to provide an external validation of the methods and results that the data analytics and econometric teams were implementing.**

**Short Term Consultant. DIME at World Bank. 2015-2017.**

**In this project, we conducted the evaluation of the SHD nutrition program in Nepal. My role was to help with the questionnaire design for the data collection, and perform the econometric evaluation of the impact.**

**Research Assistant. EDePo at Institute for Fiscal Studies. 2014-2016**

**In this project, we estimated the impact of the sanitation program FINISH in two areas of India. My role was to help with the questionnaire design for the data collection, and perform the econometric evaluation of the impact.**

**Research Assistant. Universidad del Rosario. 2008-2012**

**In this position I worked on the questionnaire design, data collection, and supervision of projects associated with child development and sexual and reproductive health in Colombia.**

## **SCHOLARSHIPS AND AWARDS**

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**Cuenta de Alto Costo. Recognition for its technical-scientific support to promote research in high-cost diseases. 2022**

**NBER-IFS Pre-doctoral Funding Opportunity on the Value of Medical Research, 2016**

**RES Small Academic Expenses Grant, 2016**

**Scholarship for PhD in Economics, Central Bank of Colombia, 2011**

**COLCIENCIAS Young Researcher. 2011**