

## 2019 Essen Economics of Mental Health Workshop - Mental Health over the Life Course

June 24 - 25, 2019  
Essen, Germany

### Description

Worldwide around one in five adults have a diagnosable mental illness. Mental illness is extremely costly to society, but mental illness is not only special because it is costly and widespread. Beyond issues around stigmatization, under provision of cost-effective treatments, mental health problems also have a distinctive age-profile. Half of those with a lifetime mental health problem first experience symptoms by the age of 14, and 75% before they reach their mid-twenties. This implies that by their mid-twenties nearly one in five individuals has experienced the onset of a mental health problem. The conditions are often persistent and recurrent meaning they affect the entire work-life of the affected individuals .

### Keynotes:

[Christopher J. Ruhm](#) (University of Virginia)

[Fabrizio Mazzonna](#) (Università della Svizzera Italiana)

### Application

Visit the workshop [website](#) for the latest information. **There are no fees!**

### Call for Papers

This workshop aims to gather (junior) researchers with an interest in applying the tools of economics to problems surrounding mental health. Papers considering a life-course aspect of mental health are preferred. Empirical analyses in this field are especially encouraged for submission. The primary selection criteria is academic quality. In rare cases of two applications of equal quality, the benefit will be given to the junior researchers. For further details, please consult the [application page](#) .

In contrast to other events, **discussants and not authors** will present their work to stimulate discussion.

### Hosting Institutions

[CINCH](#) is one of Germany's leading research centers in Health Economics.

[RWI](#) – Leibniz - Institute for Economic Research is a leading centre for economic research and evidence-based policy advice in Germany.

[LSCR](#) is a research cooperation between RWI, University Duisburg-Essen, Tilburg University and other partners focused on “Health care challenges in regions with declining and ageing populations”.

Please submit a paper or extended abstract to [events@cinch.uni-due.de](mailto:events@cinch.uni-due.de) by 1<sup>st</sup> of March 2019.

### Keynotes

#### Christopher J. Ruhm



Christopher J. Ruhm is Professor of Public Policy and Economics at the University of Virginia. His recent research has focused on examining how various aspects of health are produced – including the causes of the fatal drug overdose epidemic, the rise in obesity, and the relationship between macroeconomic conditions and health – and on the role of government policies in helping parents with young children balance the competing needs of work and family life. His earlier research includes study of the determinants of health and risky behaviors, effects of job displacements and mandated employment benefits, transition into retirement and the causes and consequences of alcohol and illegal drug policies.

#### Fabrizio Mazzonna



Fabrizio Mazzonna is an Associate Professor in Economics at the Faculty of Economics of the Università della Svizzera Italiana (USI) in Lugano where he also serves as the director of the Center for Economic and Political research on aging (CEPRA). His research has mainly focused on the economics of aging — especially on the determinants of cognitive depreciation over the life-cycle and its relationship with individual economic behavior and choices. He published articles in international journals on issues related to the effects of retirement and education on cognitive abilities of the elderly. More recently, he has investigated the effect of immigration on native and immigrants' health and the relationship between sleeping and health.