

Dov Chernichovsky, Ph.D.

Dov Chernichovsky (Ph.D. Economics) is a professor of health economics and policy in the Department of Health Systems Management at Ben-Gurion University of the Negev, Israel. Dov is a Research Associate with the National Bureau of Economic Research (NBER) in the USA, heads the health team at the Taub Center for Social Policy in Israel, and manages the Health Forum for advancing healthcare in the south of Israel. Dov consults for the World Bank where he was staff. He serves on the board of the Israeli Cancer Society, the Baxter Prize advisory board, and on the editorial boards of several journals. He was the first professional health economist to work in Israel, helping to establish educational and research programs in the field practically unknown in Israel. Dov was already known by then for his pioneering work on a variety of human resources issues, notably those related to investment in fertility behavior, and children's health and education. His work in Botswana, Brazil, India, and Indonesia, and the U.S.A studying household behavior yielded the first economic studies in household nutrition. Dov has now become known in the field of the economics of household behavior for articulating in "the favored son hypothesis" for investment in children's schooling.

Upon arrival in Israel Dov has started pioneering health services research work the country, in addition to teaching and continuation of international work. Amongst his noted works in the late seventies early eighties is the application of a Hedonic Prices approach to estimate hospital costs in the absence of cost accounting data. His students from that period have eventually become to establish and lead economic, financial, and planning units across the institutions comprising the Israeli health care system for which Dov did extensive consulting.

Eventually Dov turned into macro-economic and policy work in health systems that has led to a classic formulation of health system development known as the Emerging Paradigm, and innovative work in the application of Fuzzy Logic to the study of financing of health systems, and formulating the effect of aging on health system costs.

Dov was member Israeli State (Blue Ribbon / Royal) Commission of Inquiry into the Israeli Health Care System between 1998-1990. This commission outlined the reform proposal that led to the national health insurance legislation that was enacted in Israel in 1995. More recently, 2000-2002, he served on another similar commission that set further reform proposals to the Israeli system. On behalf of the World Bank, he played key roles in health system reform formulations in Rumania, Russia, and more recently in Mexico and Colombia. In Russia he helped formulate the health insurance legislation underlying the current Russian health system. He has published extensively in the areas of the economics of population and family planning, nutrition, and health system finance and reform, covering situations in Botswana, Brazil, India, Indonesia, Israel, Mexico, Russia, Tanzania and the USA.

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