

Argentina's Plan Nacer:
Enabling a Healthy Start for
Babies Born into Poverty

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Today....

- Context:

Why is Plan Nacer Unique?

- Evaluation

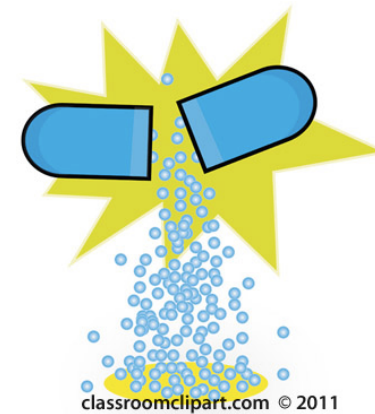
Priority: Improve Birth Outcomes of Babies Born into Poverty...

- Low Birth Weight
- Associated with poor
 - Health
 - Cognitive development
 - Education
 - Earnings
- Uninsured & little access to quality care

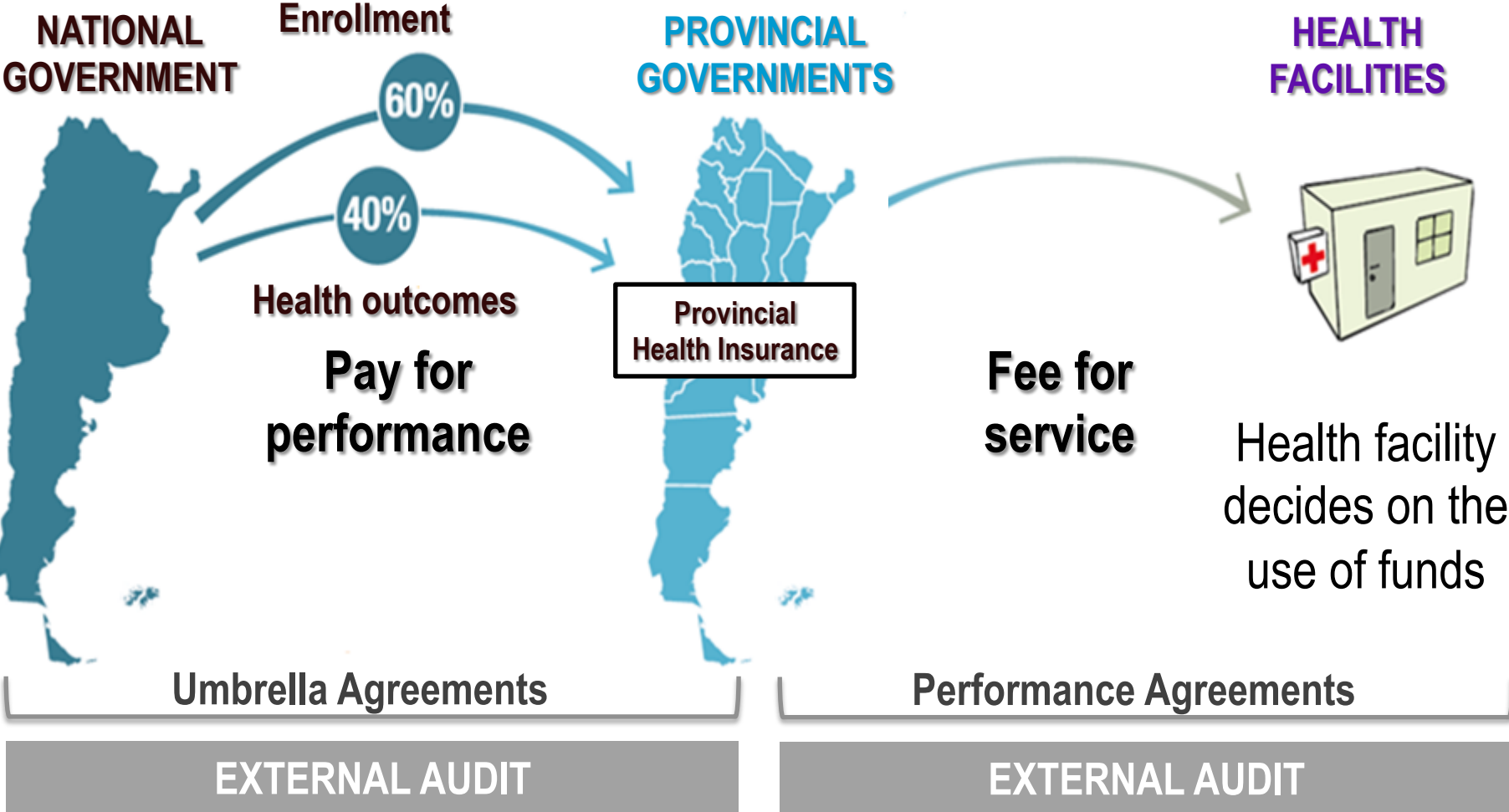


Argentina's Plan Nacer

- Improve maternal and child health
 - Access to quality care
- Mechanisms
 - Target uninsured users of public facilities
 - More money to providers
 - Incentives



Incentivized Financing Scheme



Plan Nacer Similar to Other Programs

- Examples
 - Medicaid in United States
 - Seguro Popular in Mexico
- Local governments responsible for care of uninsured (poor)
 - Co-financed with national government
 - Capitation payment per enrollee



Plan Nacer Capitation More Sophisticated

- Payment Per Beneficiary
 - Medicaid (100%)
 - Seguro Popular (100%)
 - Plan Nacer (60%)
- Plan Nacer Adds Performance Incentives
 - Health outcomes
 - Utilization and quality
 - Up to 40% of max payment



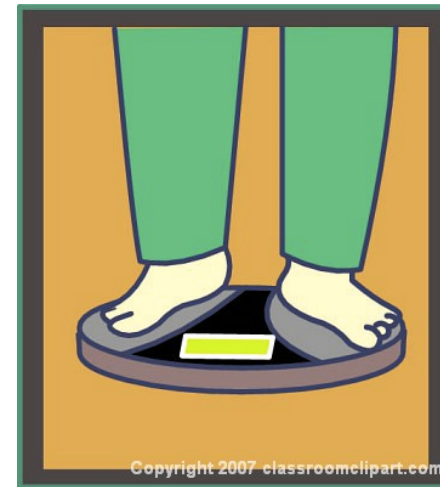
Innovative Features



- Nation to Province Capitation
 - Performance Incentives & Health Outcomes
- Few others use health outcomes incentives for local governments
 - Indonesia: villages incentives payments for nutrition outcomes
 - India: village incentives for open defecation free
- Many use FFS payments to providers

Today....

- Context:
- Evaluation:
 - Questions
 - Data
 - Methods
 - Results



Birth Certificate Data

- Universe in public hospitals
 - 6 northern Provinces
 - 2004-08
- Very large sample sizes
- Important rare outcomes
 - Low Birth weight
 - Neonatal mortality



Eligible and Beneficiary Population

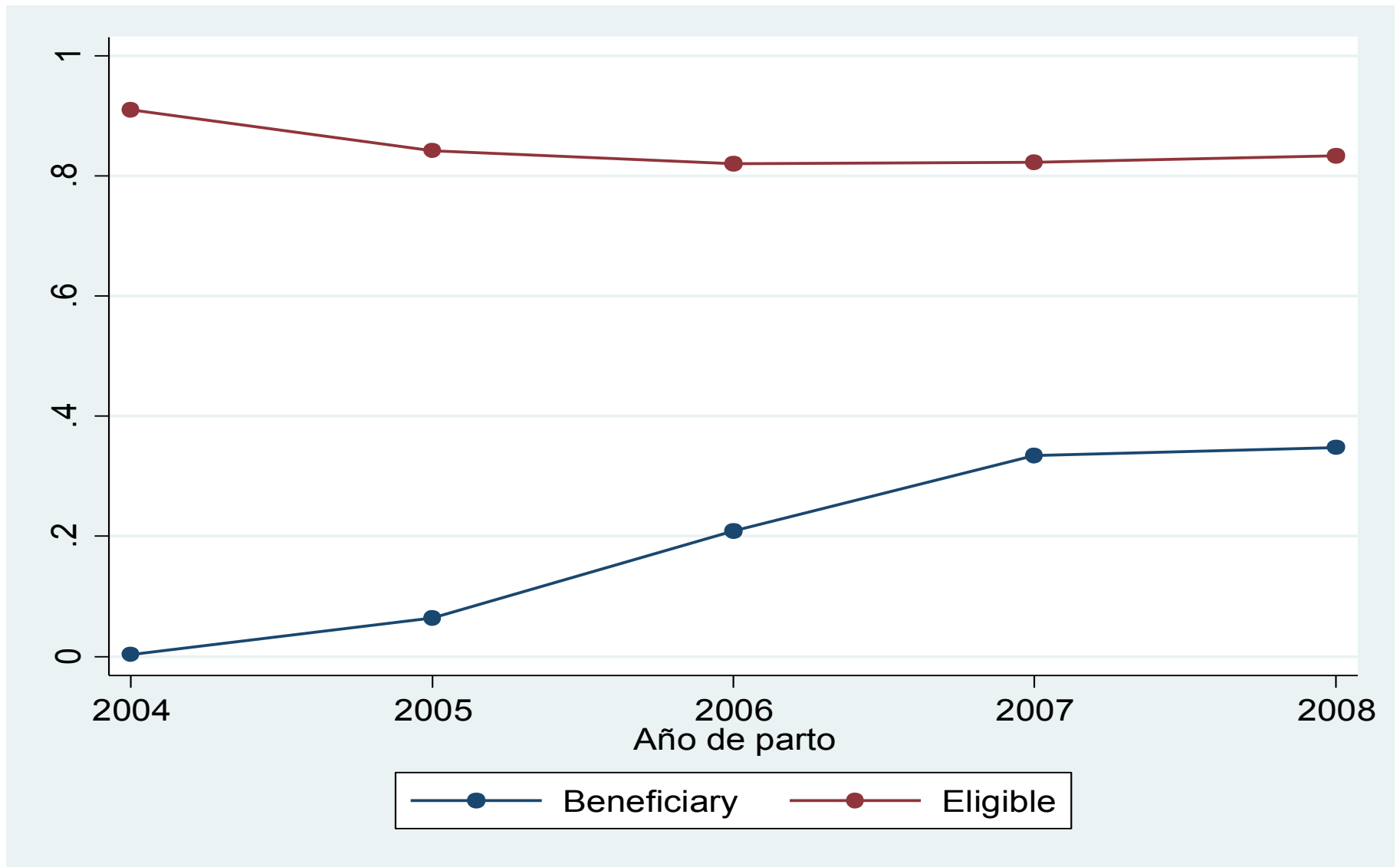


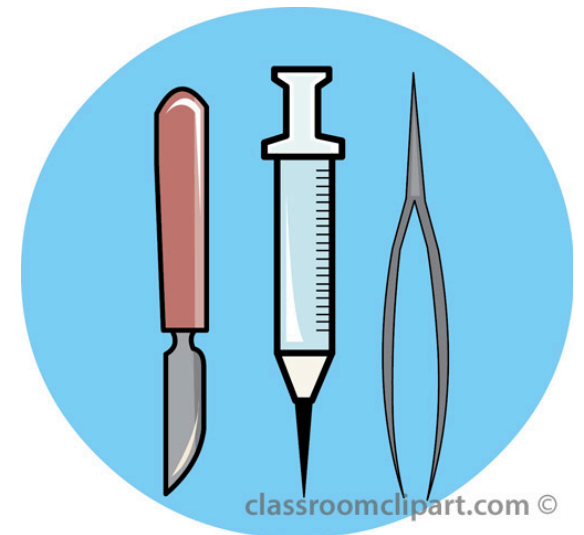
Table 2: Means of Outcome Indicators

	2004	2008
Care		
Prenatal Care in 1 st 12 weeks	0.16	0.23
Prenatal Care in 1 st 20 weeks	0.58	0.65
Number of Prenatal Care Visits	4.42	4.90
Tetanus Vaccine	0.73	0.67
Caesarian Section	0.21	0.22
Health Outcomes		
Stillbirth	0.01	0.01
Birth Weight (kilos)	3.24	3.23
Low Birth Weight (<2500 gm)	0.08	0.09
APGAR Score at 5 Minutes	8.75	8.78
Neonatal Mortality/1000 Births	9.73	6.77

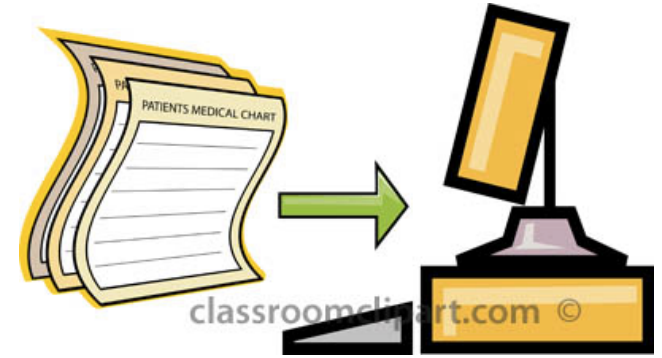
Evaluation Objectives:

Impact of a clinic enrolling in Plan Nacer on outcomes of..

- all patients regardless beneficiary status
 - (Intent to Treat):
- beneficiary patients
 - (Treatment on The Treated):
- non-beneficiaries patients
 - (Spillover)

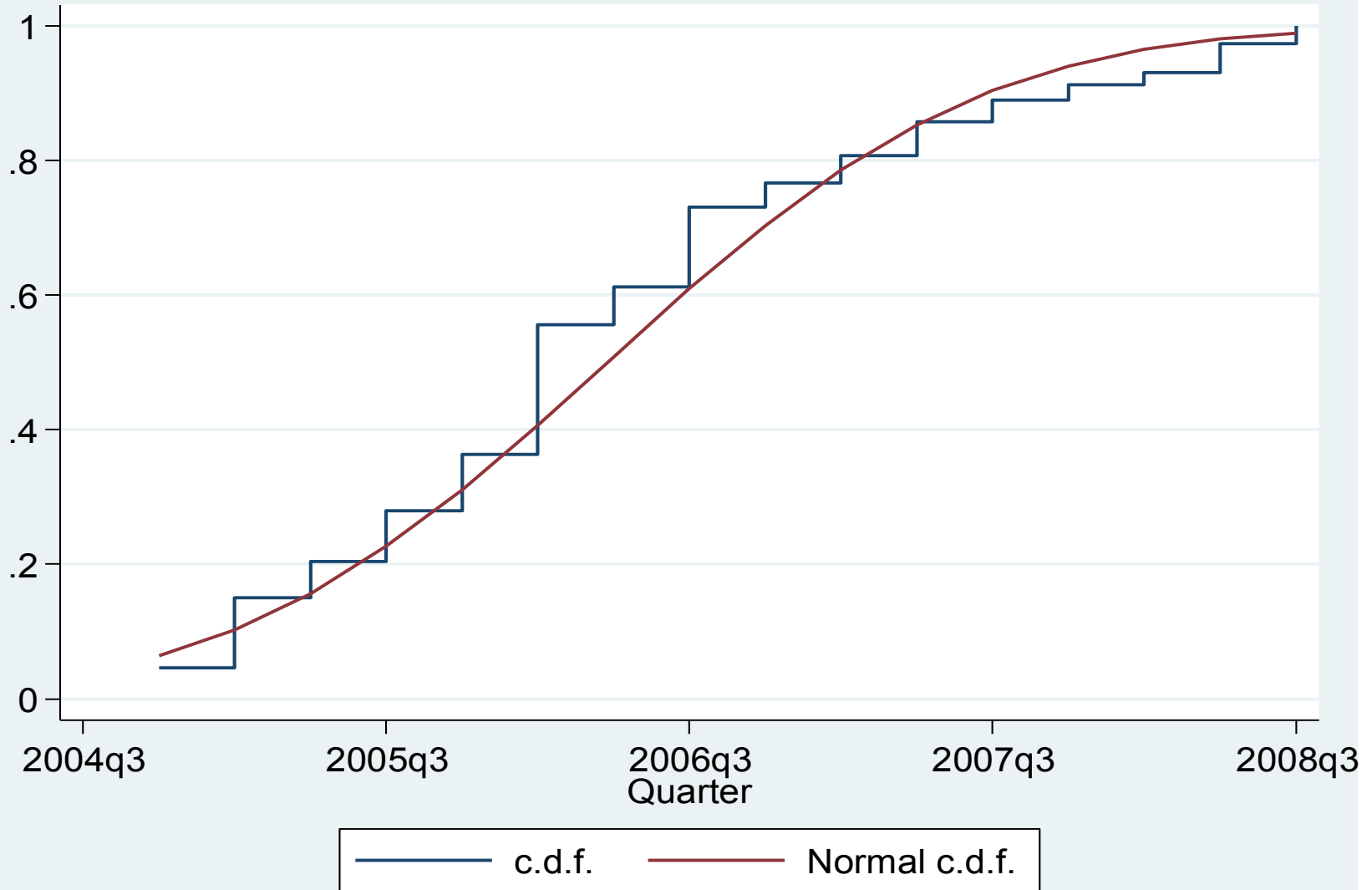


Methods

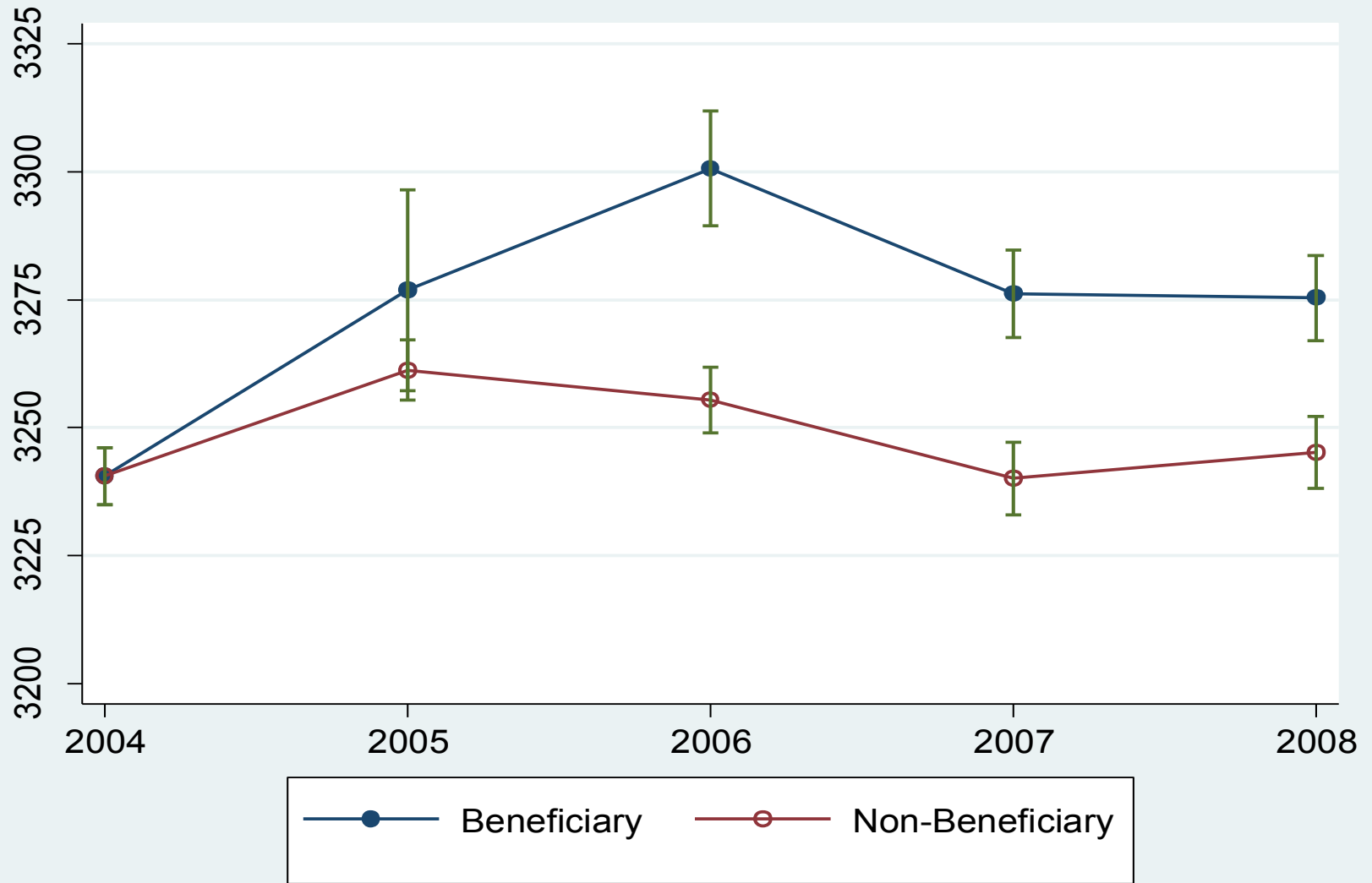


- ITT: Difference in Differences
 - Phased clinic enrollment over time
 - Clinic and province-time fixed effects
 - Balance and pre-intervention trend tests
- TOT & Spillover: IV Difference in Differences
 - Clinic enrolled
 - Time enrolled
 - Demographics*enrollment

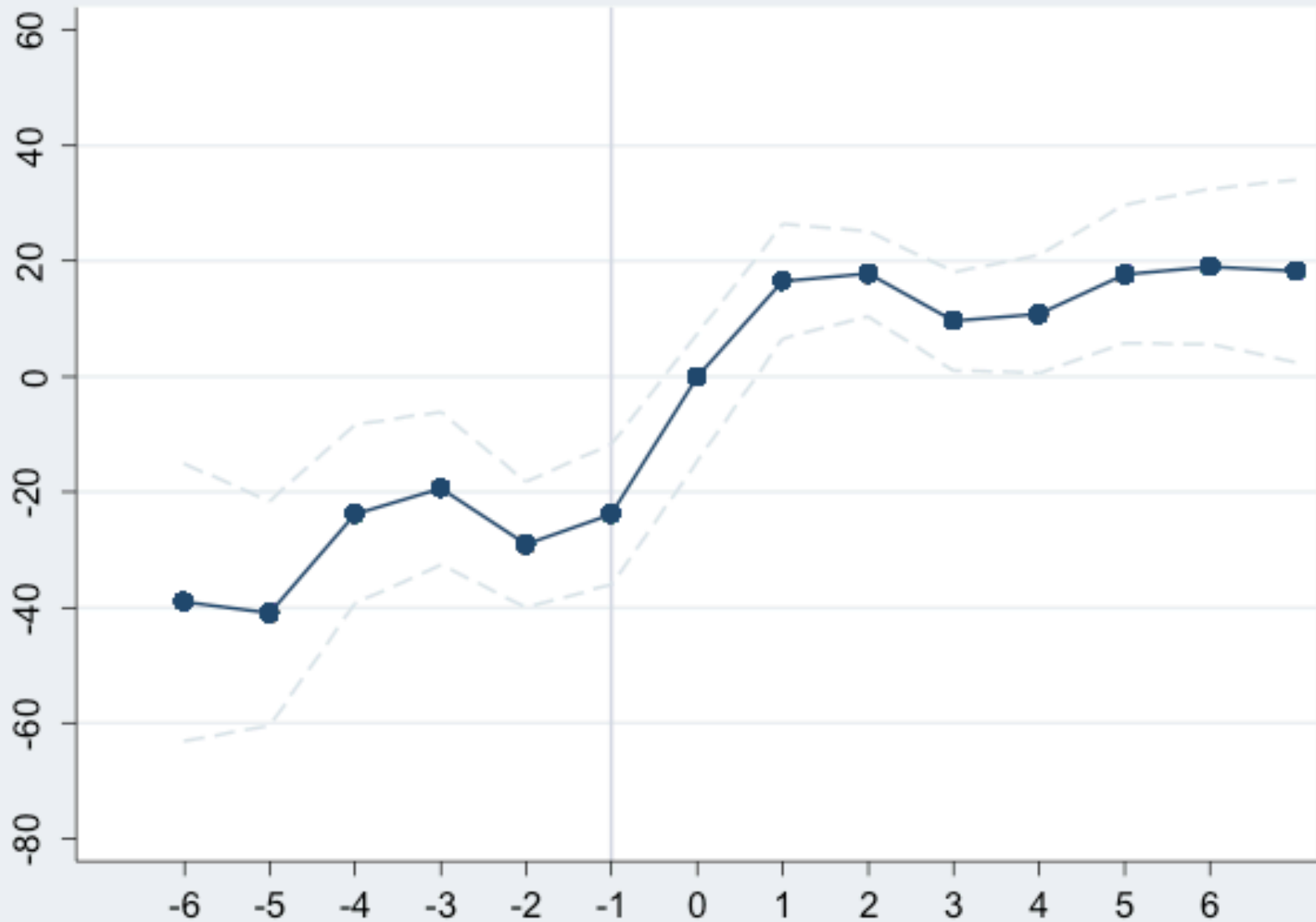
Timing of Clinic Enrollment into Plan Nacer



Mean Birth Weight by Beneficiary Status Over Time



Birth Weight Event History Analysis



Semesters Before and After the Clinic began Plan Nacer

Table 4: Impact of Plan Nacer on Birth Outcomes

	Still Birth	Birth Weight (grams)	Low Birth Weight	APGAR (5 min)
A. Intent-to-Treat				
Clinic on Plan Nacer	-0.003***	23.1***	-0.01***	0.03**
Non-treatment Mean	0.009	3226.1	0.09	8.75
B. Treatment-on-Treated				
Plan Nacer Beneficiary	-0.009***	69.5***	-0.02***	0.09***
Non-Beneficiary Mean	0.010	3224.6	0.09	8.75

Table 3: Impact of Plan Nacer on Prenatal Care Utilization and Quality

	Prenatal Care Initiated in 1 st 12 weeks	Prenatal Care Initiated in 1 st 20 weeks	Number Prenatal Care Visits	Tetanus Toxoid Vaccine	Cesarean Section
A. Intent-to-Treat					
Clinic on Plan Nacer	0.00	0.00	0.15***	0.034***	-0.02**
Mean of Non-treated	0.19	0.61	4.50	0.79	0.23
B. Treatment-on-Treated					
Plan Nacer Beneficiary	0.02	0.01	0.68***	0.105***	-0.06***
Mean of Non-treated	0.19	0.61	4.45	0.78	0.23

Table 5: Impact on Neonatal Mortality

	Model 1	Model 2
A. Intent-to-Treat		
Clinic on Plan Nacer	-0.002**	-0.000
Clinic on Plan Nacer * LBW		-0.010**
LBW		0.062***
Non-Beneficiary Mean	0.009	0.009
Non-Beneficiary Mean/LBW		0.065
B. Treatment on the Treated		
Plan Nacer Beneficiary	-0.007**	-0.001
Plan Nacer Beneficiary * LBW		-0.033***
LBW		0.062***
Non-Beneficiary Mean	0.010	0.010
Non-Beneficiary Mean/LBW		0.065

How Plan Reduced Neonatal Mortality

- Neonatal mortality all from LBW babies
- Lower by
 - Preventing LBW
 - Better care for LBW babies
- Find
 - 54% of reduction from preventing LBW
 - 46% from better care for LBW babies



Lessons



- Plan Nacer innovative
- Very effective
 - More & better prenatal care
 - Improved birth outcomes
 - Lower neonatal mortality
- Maybe a good model for others to consider
- Birth/Medical records valuable for evaluation

Limitations

- Only 6 Provinces
- Limited data on Mechanisms
 - Utilization
 - Quality of care
- Nothing on postnatal



Next Steps

- Cost-Effectiveness
- Expand to other Provinces
 - Combined with CCT
- Mechanisms
 - Detailed utilization
 - Quality of care
- Post natal care and outcomes



Many Thanks to All

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