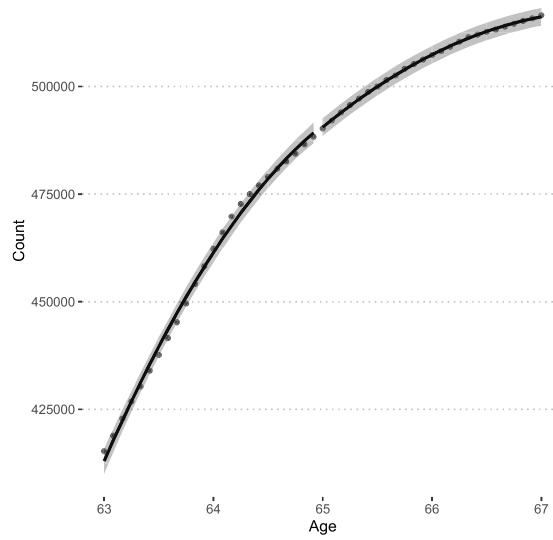


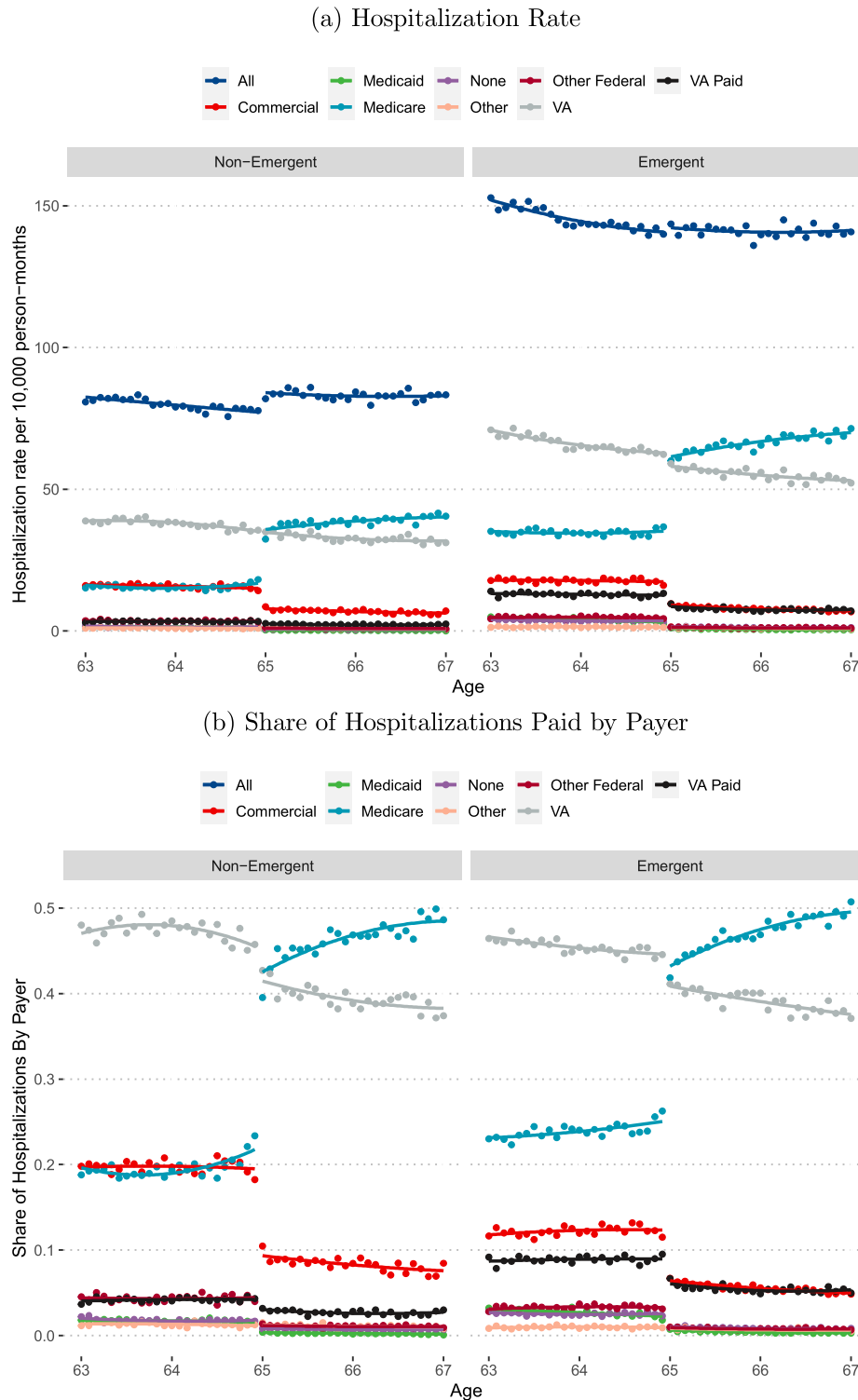
A Appendix

Figure A1: Count of Age-Months Lived in Sample



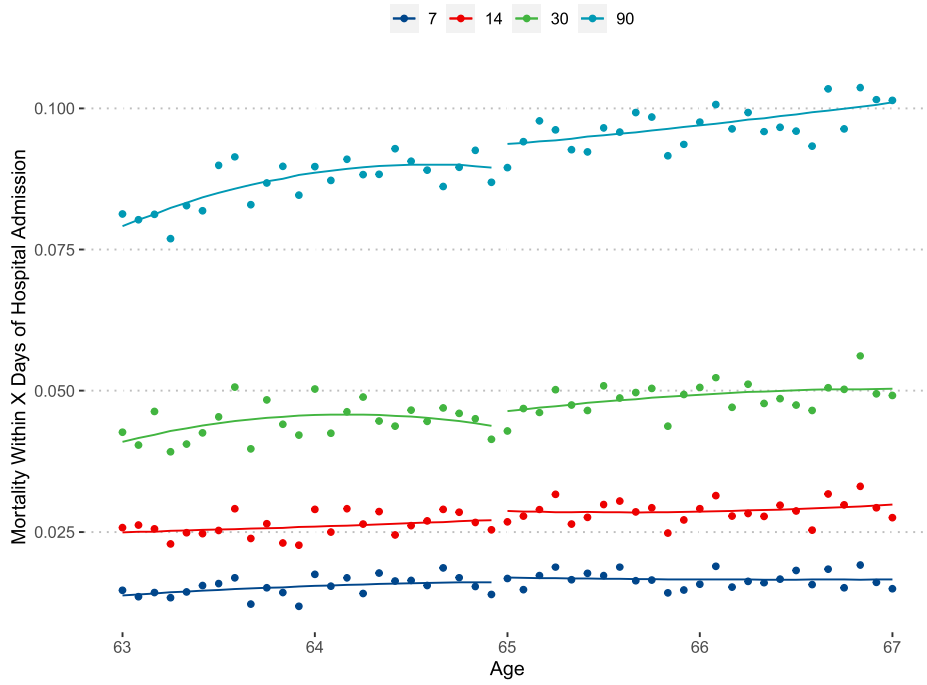
Notes: Age profile of the count of age-months lived in the sample as used for construction of the denominator of hospitalization rates. Data is taken from the VA enrollment files between 2010 and 2019. The estimate for the McCrary Test (McCrary, 2008) is shown in Table 1.

Figure A2: Age Profile of Hospitalization Rate and Payer Share for Emergent and Non-Emergent Hospitalizations



Notes: Age profile of the hospitalization rate per 10,000 person months overall and by payer (Figure A2a) and share of hospitalizations paid by specified payers (Figure A2b). "Emergent" refers to the admission originating from the emergency department. See Tables 2 and 3 for regression estimates. 44

Figure A3: Age Profile of Mortality



Notes: Age profile of mortality after emergent hospitalization within 7, 14, 30, and 90 days. See Table ?? for regression estimates.

Figure A4: Bandwidth Robustness of Regression Discontinuity Estimates (Utilization Rates)

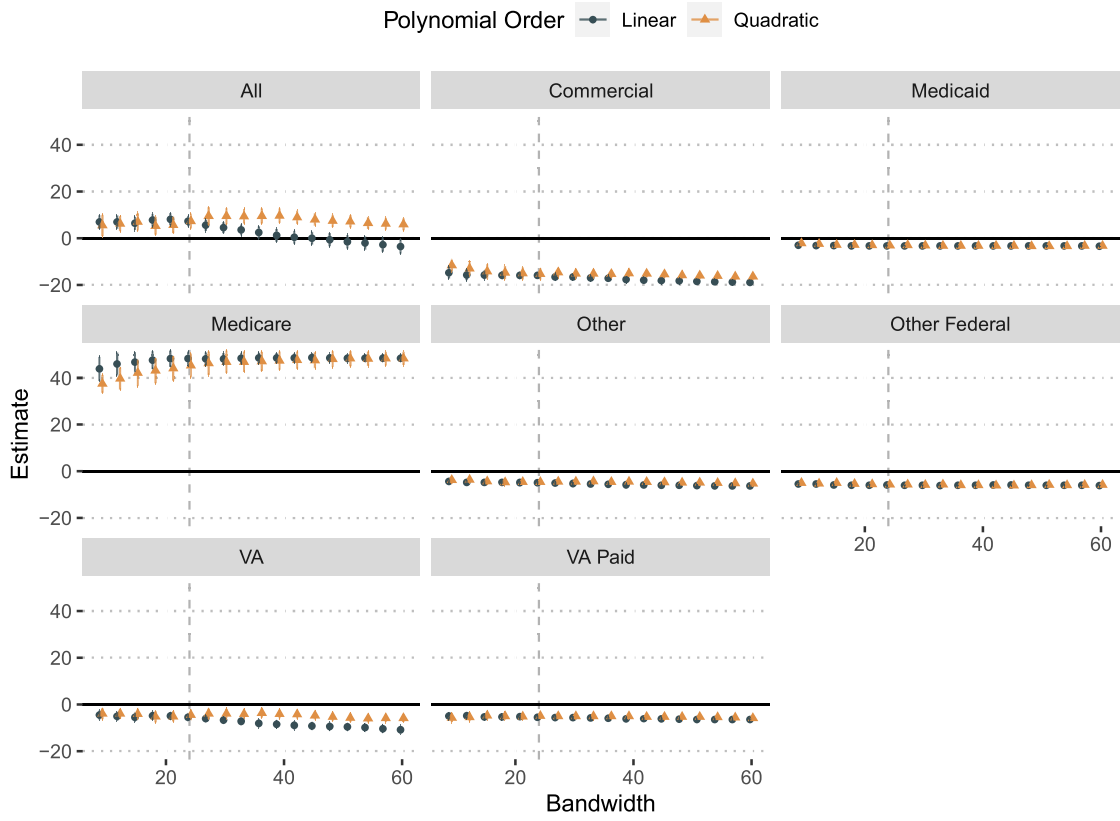


Figure A5: Bandwidth Robustness of Regression Discontinuity Estimates (Insurer Shares)

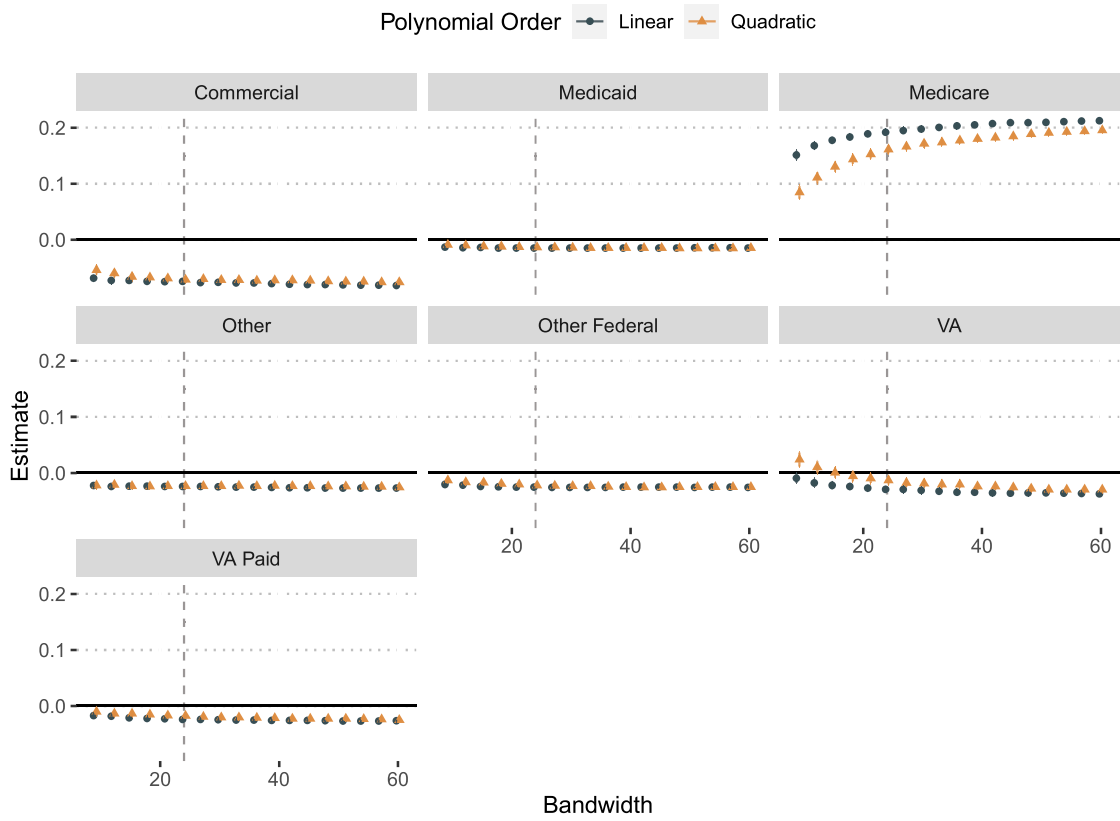
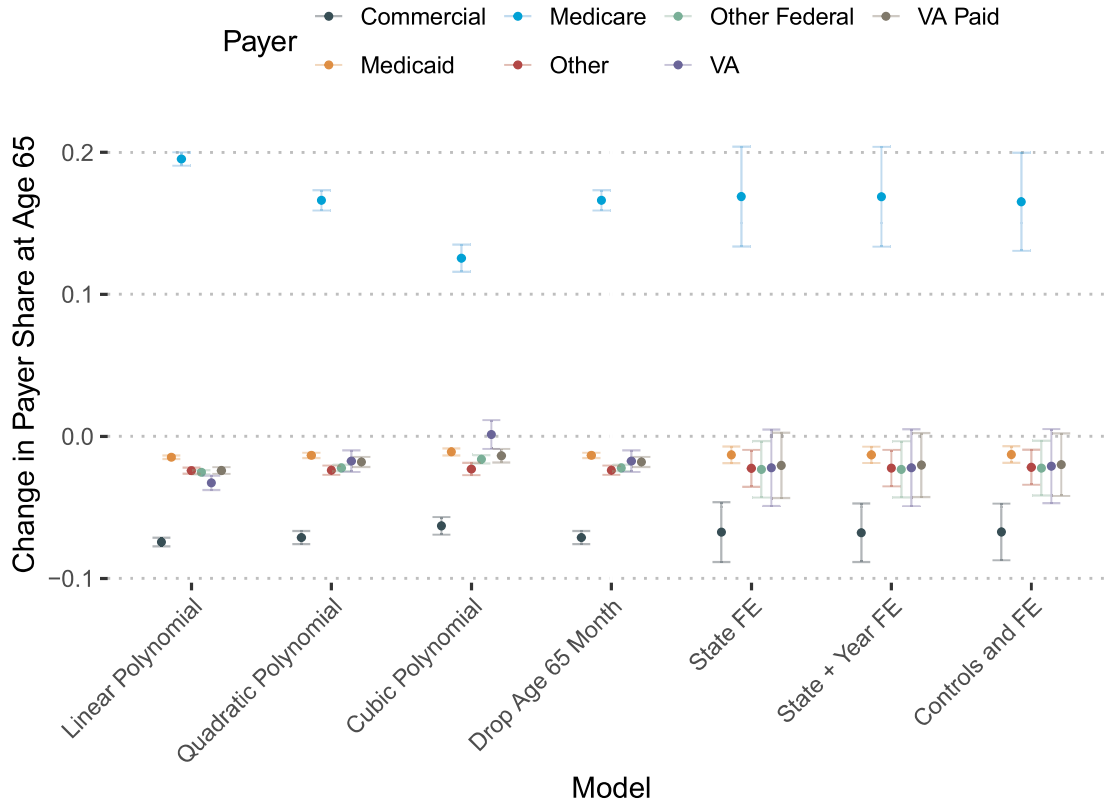


Figure A6: Robustness to Model Specification



Notes: Robustness of estimates of the change in payer share at age 65 to various RD model specifications. “Linear Polynomial” refers to a linear RD specification, “Quadratic Polynomial” refers to a quadratic specification and matches our main results, and “Cubic Polynomial” introduces a cubic fit to the RD. The remaining models revert to the quadratic fit. “Drop Age 65 Month” drops the age 65 and 0 months age cell. “State FE” includes a fixed effect for state, and “State + Year FE” adds a fixed effect for the year of the hospitalization. “Controls and FE” includes both fixed effects and includes patient-level controls for drive time to a VA facility, being male, being white, living in an urban area, and being in priority group 1-4.

Table A1: Regression Estimates of Distance Traveled and Star Rating of Selected Hospital

	<u>Distance Traveled</u>			<u>Star Rating Selected</u>		
	All	Emergent	Non-Emergent	All	Emergent	Non-Emergent
Change at 65	-0.684 (0.365)	-1.348 (0.240)	0.057 (0.619)	-0.022 (0.015)	-0.024 (0.015)	-0.028 (0.031)
Mean just before 65	20.03	16.32	28.32	2.89	2.84	3.05
Observations	85,645	85,645	85,645	85,645	85,645	85,645

Estimates are of the change in the distance traveled and of the star rating of the hospital selected using Equation 2. Note that distance sample consists of hospitalizations occurring in Florida, New York or Pennsylvania with the maximum distance of 250 miles. The hospital star rating sample consists of hospitalizations occurring in Florida, New York or Pennsylvania between 2016 and 2019.

Table A2: Regression Estimates of Change in Insurer Share and Rate by Relative Distance between CMS and VA Hospitals

Distance from Nearest VA Hospital	Veterans Living 0 – 5 miles from CMS Hospital			
	0 – 5 miles	5 – 10 miles	10 – 25 miles	25 – 50 miles
Share Medicare	0.084 (0.014)	0.148 (0.122)	0.188 (0.027)	0.212 (0.021)
Share VA	-0.011 (0.010)	-0.040 (0.007)	-0.020 (0.021)	-0.036 (0.015)
Share Commercial Insurance	-0.023 (0.004)	-0.052 (0.009)	-0.091 (0.009)	-0.061 (0.011)
Share VA Community Care	0.000 (0.002)	-0.018 (0.004)	-0.019 (0.006)	-0.034 (0.007)
Rate Medicare	2.618 (0.504)	3.923 (0.433)	7.771 (0.826)	7.105 (0.463)
Rate VA	0.084 (0.590)	-0.504 (0.384)	-0.624 (0.437)	-1.227 (0.348)
Rate Commercial Insurance	-0.785 (0.153)	-1.456 (0.198)	-2.933 (0.247)	-1.896 (0.437)
Rate VA Community Care	-0.043 (0.087)	-0.453 (0.080)	-0.628 (0.275)	-1.155 (0.201)
Observations	81,181	64,918	82,535	72,862

Estimates are of β_1 using Equation 2. Estimates represent the change in the share/rate of hospitalizations paid for by each payer (insurer) type at age 65.

Table A3: Change in Insurance at Age 65

	Medicare	Medicaid	Private Insur- ance	TRICARE	VA	Medicare (CMS Match)	Any Other Health Insur- ance
Change at 65	55.78 (1.35)	1.84 (1.67)	-6.90 (2.76)	0.76 (2.31)	0.98 (1.61)	40.37 (0.16)	21.98 (1.74)
Mean Age 64	24.33	6.70	32.78	16.33	93.28	21.04	63.34

Notes: Estimates of changes in health insurance type at age 65. Data for the first five columns comes from years 2010-2021 of the VA survey of enrollees ($n = 14,609$), and the data for the last column comes from a yearly match with administrative data from CMS ($n = 2581558$). Estimates from survey data do not include the four month period immediately after age 65 due to missing information on exact survey completion date. Robust standard errors are in parentheses below the estimates. *Mean Age 64* gives the proportion of individuals reporting that type of insurance coverage just before the age 65 cutoff.