

## MASTER THESIS REVIEW

**Author:** Yanelkis Fernández-Molina

**Thesis:** Inequality of Opportunity in Health: Empirical Evidence from Mexico

**Reviewer:** Cinzia Di Novi

### Content

Yanelkis Fernández-Molina's thesis analyzes the inequality in individuals health status due to unfair circumstances by applying a regression-based approach and the Mean Logarithmic Deviation. She used data from the Mexican National Health and Nutrition Survey collected in 2018. Individuals health status has been measured by a set of biomarkers: the glycated hemoglobin (HbA1c), albumin in the blood, and the systolic blood pressure, which are indicators used to diagnose and monitor Non-communicable diseases (NCD) such as cardiovascular diseases and diabetes.

### Literature and references

The literature and references are complete and up to date.

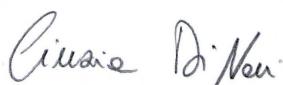
### Formal requirements

The thesis contains new and significant information; the theoretical and empirical methods were described comprehensively. Interpretations and conclusions are justified by the results; the number of figures and tables are adequate.

### Overall evaluation and proposed grade

Following the most recent literature on health inequality, Yanelkis included in her thesis biomarkers as measure of individuals health status. Unlike self-reported health, biomarkers are more objective health measures and provide information on pre-disease conditions and insights on the biological links between socio-economic status and health. However, biomarker data impose a number of statistical challenges, often being distributed asymmetrically with heavy tails. Yanelkis used the proper empirical method to deal with this kind of data.

I am satisfied with her thesis. I do recommend the thesis for defense with grade B.



Date: 06/15/2020 Signature: