Leemore Dafny, PhD., Bruce V. Rauner Professor of Business Administration, Harvard Business School

Leemore Dafny is a tenured economist at the Harvard Business School, where she holds the position of Bruce V. Rauner Professor of Business Administration. She is also a Member of the Faculty of the John F. Kennedy School of Government. Dr. Dafny co-directs the PhD program in Business Economics and serves on the faculty of the interdisciplinary PhD Program in Health Policy. She is a Research Associate of the National Bureau of Economic Research, a Board member of the American Society of Health Economists and the Health Care Cost Institute, and a member of the Panel of Health Advisers to the Congressional Budget Office.

In 2012–2013, Dr. Dafny served as Deputy Director for Health Care and Antitrust at the Federal Trade Commission’s (FTC) Bureau of Economics, a newly created position designed to enhance the agency’s efforts to promote competition in the healthcare sector. In her FTC role, Dr. Dafny oversaw a staff of more than 50 economists, investigating cases and advising on competitive issues ranging from effects of provider consolidation to reverse payment settlements in the pharmaceutical industry.

Dr. Dafny’s academic research focuses on competitive interactions among payers and providers of healthcare services, with an emphasis on antitrust, competitive strategy, and public policy. Notably, Dr. Dafny’s research on health insurance markets was instrumental to policymakers as they developed institutions and policies central to President Obama’s healthcare reform law. Her work has been published in leading journals including the American Economic Review and the New England Journal of Medicine (NEJM), and featured in outlets such as the New York Times and the Washington Post.

Current projects include studies of consolidation in the U.S. hospital industry and the kidney dialysis industry, products and pricing on the public health insurance exchanges, copayment coupons for prescription drugs, and the implications of for-profit ownership of insurance companies.