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Michael Frakes joined the Duke Law faculty in June, 2016 from Northwestern University's Pritzker School of Law, where he was an associate professor. He is generally interested in empirical research in the areas of health law and innovation policy. His research in health is largely focused on understanding how certain legal and financial incentives affect the decisions of physicians and other health care providers. His research in innovation policy centers on the relationship between the financing of the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office and key aspects of its decision making. Michael also serves as a faculty research fellow at the National Bureau of Economic Research.