Comment on "Re-Examining the Contribution of Public Health Efforts to the Decline in Urban Mortality"
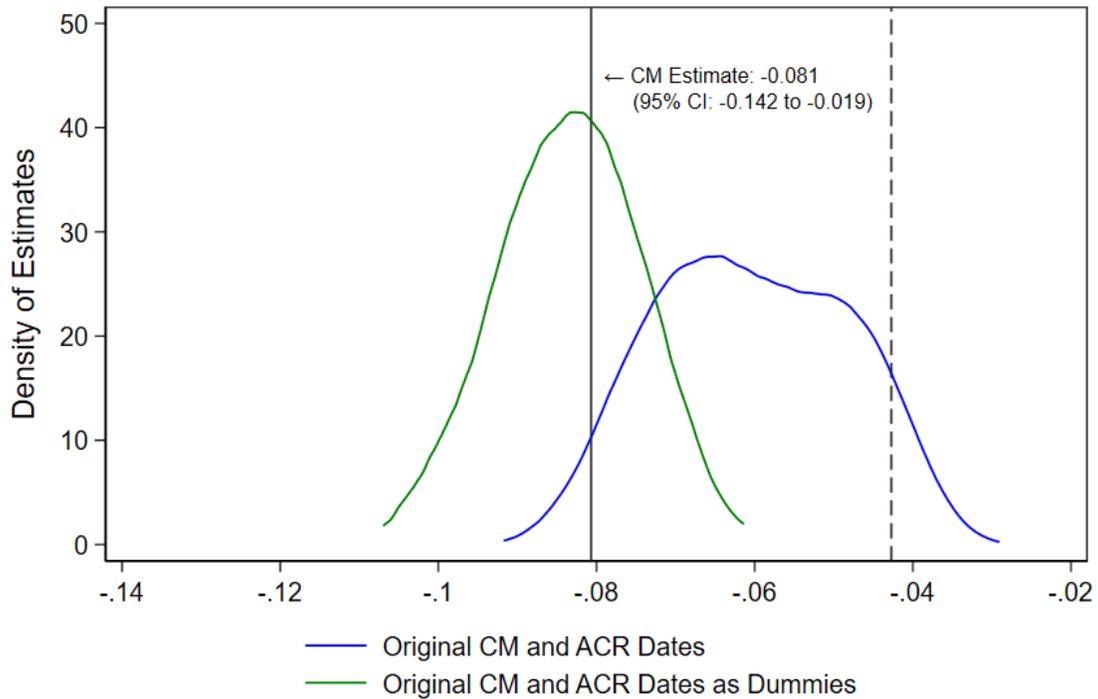
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Online Appendix

Online Appendix Figure 1: Distribution of Coefficients Using ACR Mortality Rates and All Possible Combinations of Intervention Dates

Online Appendix Figure 1 assesses the sensitivity of ACR (2020) total mortality rate results to alternative intervention dates. We re-estimate Equation (1) using all possible unique pair-wise combinations of city-level intervention dates used in CM (2005) and ACR (2020). When allowing for fractional year intervention coding, CM and ACR intervention variables differ in at least some years for all 13 cities, implying a total of $2^{13} = 8{,}192$ possible unique pair-wise combinations of city-level intervention variables. When recoding ACR dates to indictors (not allowing for partial years), intervention variables used CM and ACR differ for only 9 cities, leading to a total of $2^9 = 512$ possible unique combinations of city-level dates. Figures show the distribution of each set of resulting point estimates. All specifications include sewage treatment dummy variables, lagged mortality, year and city dummy variables, city trends, and demographic characteristics (population share by gender, race, birthplace, and age). Solid vertical line shows results using ACR mortality rates and CM intervention dates, and dashed line shows results using ACR mortality rates and ACR intervention dates.