



Community-Based Screening Initiatives and Early Detection of Breast Cancer Among Rural African Women in Burkina Faso: An Exploratory Study

Dossa Komara^{1,2}, Sadio Zogbomana^{3,4}, Amougou Guiguindji^{5,6}

¹ Department of Interdisciplinary Studies, Joseph Ki-Zerbo University, Ouagadougou

² Department of Research, International Institute for Water and Environmental Engineering (2iE)

³ Institut de Recherche en Sciences de la Santé (IRSS)

⁴ International Institute for Water and Environmental Engineering (2iE)

⁵ Department of Interdisciplinary Studies, International Institute for Water and Environmental Engineering (2iE)

⁶ Department of Interdisciplinary Studies, Institut de Recherche en Sciences de la Santé (IRSS)

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Correspondence: dkomara@aol.com

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Author notes

Dossa Komara is affiliated with Department of Interdisciplinary Studies, Joseph Ki-Zerbo University, Ouagadougou and focuses on African Studies research in Africa.

Sadio Zogbomana is affiliated with Institut de Recherche en Sciences de la Santé (IRSS) and focuses on African Studies research in Africa.

Amougou Guiguindji is affiliated with Department of Interdisciplinary Studies, International Institute for Water and Environmental Engineering (2iE) and focuses on African Studies research in Africa.

Abstract

Community-based screening initiatives have been introduced in various parts of Africa to improve early detection rates for non-communicable diseases such as breast cancer. A mixed-methods approach was employed, involving both quantitative surveys and qualitative interviews. Data were collected from a sample population of 300 rural women across five districts in Burkina Faso. Community-based screening initiatives have led to an increase in the proportion of early-stage breast cancer cases detected by 25% compared to pre-screening levels, highlighting the effectiveness of community engagement in facilitating timely medical interventions. This study underscores the critical role of community participation in enhancing public health outcomes and improving access to healthcare services for underserved populations. Further research should focus on replicating these findings in other regions and evaluating long-term sustainability strategies. Policymakers are encouraged to integrate community-based screening programmes into national health agendas.

Keywords: *African geography, rural communities, community health workers, screening programmes, qualitative research, quantitative analysis, early detection strategies*

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