



Training Community Health Workers in Mozambique: A Comparative Study on Leprosy Eradication Over Three Years

Nazaré Coutinho¹

¹ Catholic University of Mozambique

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Correspondence: ncoutinho@hotmail.com

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Author notes

Nazaré Coutinho is affiliated with Catholic University of Mozambique and focuses on Arts & Humanities research in Africa.

Abstract

Leprosy remains a significant public health issue in Mozambique despite previous efforts to eradicate it through centralized healthcare services. A comparative study design was employed, involving pre- and post-training assessments on CHW performance metrics and patient outcomes compared to a control group using standard healthcare services. CHWs showed an improvement in identifying leprosy cases by 25% over the three years, with a notable rise in early diagnosis of skin lesions among patients. Training CHWs significantly enhanced leprosy detection and treatment efficiency compared to conventional methods. Continued support for CHW training programmes should be prioritised as an effective strategy for ongoing leprosy control efforts. Leprosy, Community Health Workers, Mozambique, Training Programmes

Keywords: *African Geography, Community Health Workers, Empowerment Theory, Leprosy Eradication, Participatory Methods, Public Health Policy, Qualitative Research*

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