



Mobile Health Clinics and Tuberculosis Screening in Remote Botswana: An Ethnographic Study

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Abstract

Mobile health clinics (MHCs) have been introduced to remote areas in Botswana as a strategy for early detection and treatment of tuberculosis (TB). These MHCs provide rapid screening services, which are crucial for improving TB control outcomes. This study employed participant observation, semi-structured interviews with clinicians and patients, and focus group discussions to gather data from various locations across Botswana. Data analysis was conducted using thematic coding. MHCs in remote areas demonstrated significant improvements in early TB detection rates compared to baseline levels. Clinicians reported a higher success rate in patient adherence to treatment protocols, attributed to MHC's accessibility and convenience for patients. The mobile health clinics have been effective in enhancing TB screening and treatment outcomes among remote communities in Botswana. Future studies should consider evaluating the sustainability of these services and exploring ways to integrate MHCs into existing healthcare infrastructures.

Keywords: *African Geography, Anthropology of Health, Ethnography, Community Engagement, Mobile Health Services, Tuberculosis Epidemiology, Cultural Barriers*

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