Traditional Medicine in Contemporary Seychellois Healthcare Systems: A Role and Integration Analysis

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Abstract

Seychelles is an archipelagic nation in the Indian Ocean with a significant cultural heritage that includes traditional medicine practices. A qualitative study approach was employed to gather data from interviews with local practitioners and policymakers, as well as an examination of existing health policy documents. Traditional medicine practices are widely recognised within the healthcare system but face challenges in formal recognition and funding. While traditional medicine plays a significant role in Seychelles' healthcare sector, its official integration remains limited. Further support is needed to ensure its continued relevance and efficacy. Enhanced legal frameworks supporting traditional medicine should be developed, alongside increased research into its efficacy and cost-effectiveness compared to conventional treatments.

Keywords: *Seychelles, African Studies, Traditional Medicine, Cultural Heritage, Ethnography, Health Systems, Integration Analysis*

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