



Traditional Medicine within Contemporary Algerian Healthcare Systems: An African Perspective,

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Abstract

Traditional medicine remains a significant component of healthcare in Algeria, particularly within rural areas where access to modern health services is limited. This qualitative study employed semi-structured interviews with community leaders, traditional healers, and patients in various regions of Algeria to explore their experiences and perspectives on traditional medical practices within a modern health framework. Traditional medicine was practiced by approximately 60% of respondents surveyed, indicating its widespread use despite the presence of state healthcare services. The most common traditional treatments included herbal remedies and spiritual healing methods. The findings highlight the resilience and continued relevance of traditional medicine in Algerian society, suggesting a need for more comprehensive integration into official healthcare structures to ensure holistic patient care. Health policymakers should consider integrating traditional medical practices into national health strategies to improve access and efficacy of healthcare services. This could involve training traditional healers and incorporating their knowledge into public health curricula.

Keywords: *African Geography, Traditional Medicine, Anthropology, Qualitative Research, Cultural Studies, Health Systems Analysis, Ethnography*

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