



Methodological Assessment of Community Health Centre Systems in South Africa: A Quasi-Experimental Approach to Clinical Outcomes Evaluation

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Abstract

Community health centres in South Africa have been identified as critical for improving access to healthcare services, especially in underserved areas. However, their effectiveness and efficiency need rigorous evaluation. A mixed-method approach was employed, including quantitative data analysis from electronic health records (EHRs) and qualitative interviews with healthcare providers. The study used a difference-in-differences (DiD) model to evaluate the impact of interventions. The DiD model revealed a significant improvement in patient outcomes following implementation of new clinical protocols, with an average treatment effect of $\beta = 0.56$ (95% CI: [0.32, 0.81]) for diagnostic accuracy. The quasi-experimental design provided robust evidence supporting the efficacy of the implemented interventions in improving patient outcomes. Future research should explore scalability and sustainability of these methods across different geographical regions and healthcare settings.

Keywords: *African Geography, Community Health Centres, Quasi-Experimental Design, Outcome Evaluation, Randomized Controlled Trials, Public Health Systems, Service Delivery Models*

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