

A Randomised Field Trial of a Novel Implementation Framework for Health Systems Adoption in Kenyan District Hospitals

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ABSTRACT

Background: Health systems in sub-Saharan Africa face persistent challenges in adopting and sustaining evidence-based interventions. Existing implementation frameworks often lack empirical validation in low-resource hospital settings, creating a gap between theoretical guidance and practical application.

Purpose and objectives: This study aimed to empirically evaluate a novel, context-adapted implementation framework designed to increase the adoption of a standardised paediatric care protocol within district-level hospitals.

Keywords: *implementation science, health systems strengthening, sub-Saharan Africa, randomised controlled trial, evidence-based practice, knowledge translation, district hospitals*

Article Highlights

- Framework increased adoption to 68% vs. 47% in control hospitals.
- Adjusted odds ratio for adoption was 2.41 (95% CI: 1.67 to 3.48).
- Enhanced local facilitator engagement was a key success mechanism.
- Structured audit cycles provided critical, actionable feedback.

Trial in Context

A stratified, parallel-group randomised field trial across 24 Kenyan district hospitals evaluated a novel implementation framework against standard support methods.

This study provides empirical validation for a practical implementation tool designed for low-resource settings.

ABSTRACT-ONLY PUBLICATION

This is an abstract-only publication. The complete research paper with full methodology, results, discussion, and references is available upon request.

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