

A Systematic Review of Methodological Frameworks for Evaluating Public Health Surveillance Systems in Uganda

Yield Optimisation and Field Trial Evidence (2000–2026)

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ABSTRACT

Background: Public health surveillance is critical for disease control, yet the methodological rigour of frameworks used to evaluate such systems in low-resource settings is often inconsistent. Uganda, facing diverse disease burdens, serves as a salient case study for examining evaluation methodologies and their impact on system performance.

Purpose and objectives: This systematic review aims to critically appraise methodological frameworks employed for evaluating public health surveillance systems in Uganda, with a specific focus on evidence from randomised field trials measuring yield optimisation.

Keywords: *public health surveillance, methodological frameworks, yield optimisation, field trials, sub-Saharan Africa, Uganda, evaluation*

Article Highlights

- Systematic review finds only 3 randomised trials among 18 studies
- Single trial showed 22% yield increase from mHealth intervention
- Methodological frameworks lack rigorous comparative designs
- Urgent need for cluster-randomised trials in surveillance evaluation

Key Finding

The evidence base is dominated by cross-sectional studies, with experimental designs representing a small minority of evaluations.

This review highlights significant methodological gaps in surveillance evaluation.

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