

Evaluating the Impact of Urban Primary Care Networks on Clinical Outcomes in Kenya

A Difference-in-Differences Analysis

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ABSTRACT

Background: Strengthening primary healthcare is a critical policy goal in many African nations, yet robust evidence on the effectiveness of integrated urban primary care networks (PCNs) remains scarce. This gap hinders the efficient allocation of resources and scaling of successful models.

Purpose and objectives: This study aimed to quantify the causal effect of a large-scale urban PCN intervention on key clinical outcomes in Kenya, specifically testing whether network integration improved management of hypertension and diabetes.

Keywords: *primary healthcare, sub-Saharan Africa, health systems evaluation, difference-in-differences, clinical outcomes, Kenya, urban health*

Article Highlights

- Quasi-experimental analysis of a nationwide primary care network intervention in Kenya.
- Significant 12.4 pp improvement in controlled hypertension among patients.
- No observed significant effect on glycaemic control for diabetic patients.
- Findings suggest condition-specific mechanisms for integrated care models.

Methodological Note

Causal inference was established using a difference-in-differences design with longitudinal patient-level data and cluster-robust standard errors.

This study provides novel causal evidence on the differential impact of integrated urban primary care.

ABSTRACT-ONLY PUBLICATION

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