

Randomised Field Trial of a Methodological Framework for Risk Reduction in Nigerian Community Health Centres

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ABSTRACT

Background: Community health centres in Nigeria face systemic risks that compromise service delivery and patient safety. Existing risk management approaches are often ad hoc and lack a standardised, evidence-based methodology suitable for low-resource settings.

Purpose and objectives: This study aimed to evaluate the efficacy of a novel, structured methodological framework for operational risk reduction in Nigerian community health centres. The primary objective was to quantify the framework's impact on a composite risk score.

Keywords: *Randomised controlled trial, Risk management, Community health centres, Sub-Saharan Africa, Health systems evaluation, Patient safety, Implementation research*

Article Highlights

- Structured framework reduced mean risk score by 12.4 points versus control ($p < 0.001$).
- Most substantial improvements were in medication storage and patient referral systems.
- First experimental evidence for a standardised risk methodology in sub-Saharan primary care.
- Methodology integrates risk mapping, root-cause analysis, and iterative protocol adaptation.

Study Design

Parallel-group randomised field trial of 60 community health centres, with analysis via linear mixed-effects models accounting for geographical clustering.

This trial provides actionable evidence for health systems strengthening in 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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