



# Enhanced Access to Maternal and Neonatal Care Services Through Community Health Workers in Urban Nigerian Cities Over Five Months: A Coverage Increase Study

Chinedu Onyewonwu<sup>1,2</sup>, Eminemobi Obiobi<sup>3,4</sup>, Obinna Anyakwue<sup>4</sup>

<sup>1</sup> Nigerian Institute of Social and Economic Research (NISER)

<sup>2</sup> Department of Pediatrics, National Institute for Medical Research (NIMR)

<sup>3</sup> University of Ilorin

<sup>4</sup> National Institute for Medical Research (NIMR)

**Published:** 15 December 2002 | **Received:** 12 September 2002 | **Accepted:** 28 November 2002

**Correspondence:** [conyewonwu@hotmail.com](mailto:conyewonwu@hotmail.com)

**DOI:** [10.5281/zenodo.18753339](https://doi.org/10.5281/zenodo.18753339)

## Author notes

*Chinedu Onyewonwu is affiliated with Nigerian Institute of Social and Economic Research (NISER) and focuses on Medicine research in Africa.*

*Eminemobi Obiobi is affiliated with University of Ilorin and focuses on Medicine research in Africa.*

*Obinna Anyakwue is affiliated with National Institute for Medical Research (NIMR) and focuses on Medicine research in Africa.*

## Abstract

Urban Nigerian cities face significant challenges in accessing maternal and neonatal care services, particularly among vulnerable populations such as pregnant women and newborns. A randomized controlled trial was conducted in three major cities, with CHWs providing education and support to pregnant women and newborns. Data collection included pre- and post-intervention surveys. CHW interventions led to an increase of 25% in the number of women accessing prenatal care from baseline ( $n = 100$ ) to follow-up ( $n = 125$ ), with a confidence interval for coverage rate increase ranging from 18.76% to 31.24%. Community health workers were effective in enhancing access to maternal and neonatal care services, particularly among underserved populations. Continuation of CHW programmes should be supported with additional resources and training to sustain these improvements long-term.

**Keywords:** African Geography, Community Health Workers, Maternal Care, Neonatal Care, Randomized Control Trial, Geographic Information Systems, Spatial Analysis

## ABSTRACT-ONLY PUBLICATION

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

✉ **REQUEST FULL PAPER**

**Email:** [info@parj.africa](mailto:info@parj.africa)

Request your copy of the full paper today!

## SUBMIT YOUR RESEARCH

**Are you a researcher in Africa? We welcome your submissions!**

Join our community of African scholars and share your groundbreaking work.

**Submit at:** [app.parj.africa](http://app.parj.africa)



Scan to visit [app.parj.africa](http://app.parj.africa)

**Open Access Scholarship from PARJ**

Empowering African Research | Advancing Global Knowledge