



Health Systems Resilience Framework in African Epidemic Response: Insights from Uganda's Experience

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Abstract

The current focus on health systems resilience in epidemic response has gained traction due to its potential to enhance preparedness and mitigate impacts of infectious diseases such as COVID-19. However, this field often overlooks regional-specific contexts, particularly those influenced by diverse socio-economic and political landscapes. The methodology employed is a qualitative approach, analysing archival data from Ugandan government reports, academic literature, and expert interviews. A thematic analysis was conducted on these sources to extract themes relevant to health system resilience in the face of epidemics. The theoretical framework developed provides a robust structure for understanding how specific elements can be leveraged to enhance health system resilience, particularly in resource-limited settings like Africa. This insight offers a foundation for future research and policy interventions aimed at improving epidemic preparedness and response globally. Policy recommendations include prioritising community participation in health planning processes (e.g., forming local task forces) and strengthening governance structures through improved accountability mechanisms. These strategies are expected to bolster the resilience of health systems, thereby reducing vulnerabilities during epidemics.

Keywords: *African geography, resilience theory, public health systems, infectious diseases management, contextual analysis, complexity science, adaptive governance*

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