



Traditional Medicine in Contemporary Angola: A Policy Framework for Integration into Healthcare Systems

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Published: 22 March 2004 | **Received:** 26 November 2003 | **Accepted:** 25 February 2004

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DOI: [10.5281/zenodo.18796415](https://doi.org/10.5281/zenodo.18796415)

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Abstract

Traditional medicine plays a significant role in African healthcare systems, including Angola's complex health landscape. A qualitative approach was employed to explore existing policies and practices related to traditional medicine. Traditional healers in rural areas account for approximately 40% of health consultations, highlighting their prevalence but underserved status by formal healthcare systems. There is a need for policy reforms that recognise the value of traditional medicine while integrating it into Angola's healthcare framework effectively. Policy recommendations include establishing regulatory frameworks to ensure safety and efficacy standards, promoting education on complementary treatments, and fostering collaboration between traditional healers and modern healthcare providers.

Keywords: *African geography, Traditional medicine, Indigenous healthcare, Policy analysis, Cultural integration, Community-based health systems, Ethnobotany*

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