



Traditional Medicine in Contemporary Niger: A Role within Healthcare Systems

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Abstract

Traditional medicine plays a significant role in healthcare systems across Africa, including Niger where traditional practices are deeply ingrained in community health. A qualitative research approach was employed to gather data through interviews with healthcare practitioners, focus group discussions with communities, and document analysis of existing policies. Traditional healers reported treating approximately 30% of the population for common ailments such as minor injuries and minor illnesses. Community acceptance varied; while some viewed traditional practices positively, others expressed skepticism regarding efficacy and safety. Despite challenges related to integration into formal healthcare systems and concerns over efficacy and standardisation, traditional medicine remains a vital component in Niger's healthcare landscape. Efforts should be made towards integrating traditional medicine more effectively within the existing healthcare system while ensuring patient safety and efficacy standards are met. Traditional Medicine, Healthcare Systems, Niger, African Studies

Keywords: *Sub-Saharan, African, Niger, CulturalRelativism, SocialAnthropology, QualitativeResearch, HerbalMedicine*

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