



Effectiveness of Community Health Workers in Reducing Malaria Transmission in Rural Zimbabwe: A Comprehensive Intervention Study

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Abstract

Malaria remains a significant public health issue in rural Zimbabwe, particularly affecting communities that lack access to effective preventive measures and treatment options. A mixed-methods approach was employed, combining quantitative data from health records with qualitative insights through interviews and focus group discussions among community members and CHWs. CHW interventions led to a statistically significant decrease ($p < 0.05$) in malaria incidence by 20% within the first year of implementation, with a notable increase in bed net usage from 30% to 60% across targeted communities. The study concludes that active community engagement through CHW programmes is effective in curbing malaria transmission in rural settings. Further research should focus on scalability and sustainability of these interventions. Communities, local governments, and international health organizations are recommended to invest in training and supporting more CHWs to expand coverage and effectiveness of prevention efforts. Treatment effect was estimated with $\text{logit}(\pi) = \beta_0 + \beta^T X_i$, and uncertainty reported using confidence-interval based inference.

Keywords: *African Geography, Community Health Workers, Interventions, Malaria Control, Rural Settings, Spatial Analysis, Surveillance Systems*

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