



Methodological Evaluation of District Hospitals Systems in Tanzania: Randomized Field Trial for Clinical Outcomes Assessment

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Abstract

The healthcare system in Tanzania faces significant challenges, particularly in district hospitals where resources are limited and service delivery is suboptimal. A mixed-methods approach was employed, including quantitative assessments with a standardised patient outcome scoring system (SPOS) and qualitative interviews to gather data on service delivery effectiveness and resource utilization. In the pilot study conducted in three district hospitals, SPOS scores showed an average improvement of 15% in clinical outcomes following intervention, although variability was noted across different facilities. The randomized field trial demonstrated the feasibility and potential benefits of implementing standardised outcome measures to enhance the evaluation of clinical performance in Tanzania's healthcare system. Future research should expand this study to a larger sample size and include additional districts to validate findings. Standardised training programmes for staff and more robust data collection systems are also recommended. Treatment effect was estimated with $\text{logit}(\pi) = \beta_0 + \beta_1 X_i$, and uncertainty reported using confidence-interval based inference.

Keywords: Tanzania, District Hospitals, Health Systems, Methodology, Evaluation, Randomized Controlled Trial, Clinical Outcomes Assessment

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