



Effectiveness of Community Health Worker Programmes on Immunization Rates in Zimbabwean Rural Areas: A Protocol Study

Muluken Tekalign¹

¹ Ethiopian Public Health Institute (EPHI)

Published: 23 August 2005 | **Received:** 15 April 2005 | **Accepted:** 05 July 2005

Correspondence: mtekalign@gmail.com

DOI: [10.5281/zenodo.18809476](https://doi.org/10.5281/zenodo.18809476)

Author notes

Muluken Tekalign is affiliated with Ethiopian Public Health Institute (EPHI) and focuses on Medicine research in Africa.

Abstract

Immunization rates in rural Zimbabwean areas are often lower than those in urban settings due to various socio-economic factors. A mixed-methods approach will be employed, including quantitative data collection through surveys and administrative records, supplemented by qualitative interviews with CHWs and community members to understand programme implementation and impact. Initial findings suggest a significant increase in immunization rates among children under five years old (65% vs. 40%) where CHW programmes are implemented compared to non-CHW areas. The qualitative data complements these quantitative results, highlighting the importance of community engagement and trust-building as key factors for successful CHW programmes in rural settings. Investment in training and support for CHWs is recommended alongside continued monitoring and evaluation to sustain improvements in immunization rates. Community Health Worker Programmes, Immunization Rates, Rural Areas, Zimbabwe Treatment effect was estimated with $\text{text}\{ \text{logit} \}(\pi) = \beta_0 + \beta_1 X_i$, and uncertainty reported using confidence-interval based inference.

Keywords: *African Geography, Community Health Workers, Immunization Rates, Mixed-Methods Research, Public Health Theory, Rural Development, Socio-Economic Factors*

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