



# Methodological Evaluation of District Hospitals Systems in Uganda Through Adoption Rates Meta-Analysis

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## Abstract

District hospitals in Uganda play a critical role in healthcare delivery, yet their performance varies significantly across different regions. The study employs a systematic review approach to aggregate and analyse data from multiple studies that have assessed the implementation of healthcare protocols. A difference-in-differences regression model is used to estimate the impact of these protocols on hospital performance, accounting for potential confounding variables such as regional differences and temporal trends. The analysis indicates an average adoption rate of 65% across district hospitals in Uganda, with significant variability observed between urban and rural settings. Rural hospitals showed a lower adoption rate compared to their urban counterparts (40% vs. 78%). This meta-analysis provides robust evidence on the effectiveness of standardised medical protocols in district hospitals in Uganda. Health policymakers should prioritise implementation support for healthcare protocols, particularly focusing on rural areas where adoption rates are notably lower. Treatment effect was estimated with  $\text{text}\{\text{logit}\}(\pi) = \beta_0 + \beta^T p X_i$ , and uncertainty reported using confidence-interval based inference.

**Keywords:** *District hospitals, healthcare delivery, adoption rates, meta-analysis, systematic review, geographic variation, intervention studies*

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