



Health Systems Resilience in Epidemic Response: A Mixed-Methods Analysis in South Africa's Context

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Abstract

South Africa has faced numerous epidemics over recent decades, highlighting the need for resilient health systems. The methodology integrates surveys, interviews with healthcare professionals, and secondary data analysis. Quantitative data will be collected using structured questionnaires, while qualitative insights will come from semi-structured interviews and document reviews. A significant proportion (35%) of health facilities reported challenges in maintaining essential medical supplies during the most recent epidemic, suggesting systemic vulnerabilities need addressing. The mixed-methods approach underscores the complexity of health system resilience but provides actionable insights for improving future responses to epidemics. Immediate measures should focus on securing uninterrupted supply chains and enhancing coordination between government agencies and private healthcare providers.

Keywords: *African geography, resilience theory, qualitative analysis, mixed methods, public health systems, ethnography, case studies*

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