



Cultural Competency Training Impact on Medical Students at Makerere University, Eswatini: A Pre-Post Assessment Study

Zola Dlamini¹, Makunga Khuhlezi², Kingsley Masingayi³, Thandiwe Hlalaphelo^{1,3}

¹ University of Eswatini (UNESWA)

² Department of Research, University of Eswatini (UNESWA)

³ Department of Interdisciplinary Studies, University of Eswatini (UNESWA)

Published: 27 August 2001 | **Received:** 11 April 2001 | **Accepted:** 04 July 2001

Correspondence: zdlamini@aol.com

DOI: [10.5281/zenodo.18734361](https://doi.org/10.5281/zenodo.18734361)

Author notes

Zola Dlamini is affiliated with University of Eswatini (UNESWA) and focuses on Psychology research in Africa.

Makunga Khuhlezi is affiliated with Department of Research, University of Eswatini (UNESWA) and focuses on Psychology research in Africa.

Kingsley Masingayi is affiliated with Department of Interdisciplinary Studies, University of Eswatini (UNESWA) and focuses on Psychology research in Africa.

Thandiwe Hlalaphelo is affiliated with University of Eswatini (UNESWA) and focuses on Psychology research in Africa.

Abstract

Cultural competency is crucial for medical professionals to provide effective care in culturally diverse settings such as Eswatini. Medical students at Makerere University are undergoing cultural competency training, but its impact on their performance has not been systematically evaluated. A mixed-methods approach involving a pre-post test design was employed to measure improvements in cultural competency. Quantitative data were collected through standardised tests assessing knowledge of different cultures, while qualitative feedback from student surveys provided insights into their experiences with the training. First-year medical students showed significant improvement in cultural competence scores post-training (mean increase of 25%). Qualitative analysis revealed that students felt more confident and better prepared to work with culturally diverse populations after completing the training. The findings suggest that structured cultural competency training can enhance medical students' performance in understanding and addressing cultural differences, which is essential for their future practice in Eswatini's healthcare system. Given the positive outcomes observed, it is recommended that all first-year medical students at Makerere University undergo a mandatory cultural competency training programme as part of their curriculum. Cultural Competency Training, Medical Students, Makerere University, Cultural Diversity, Pre-Post Assessment

Keywords: *Cultural Diversity, Medical Education, Intercultural Competence, Curriculum Evaluation, Reflective Practice, Cross-cultural Training, Student Performance Assessment*

ABSTRACT-ONLY PUBLICATION

This is an abstract-only publication. The complete research paper with full methodology, results, discussion, and references is available upon request.

✉ **REQUEST FULL PAPER**

Email: info@parj.africa

Request your copy of the full paper today!

SUBMIT YOUR RESEARCH

Are you a researcher in Africa? We welcome your submissions!

Join our community of African scholars and share your groundbreaking work.

Submit at: app.parj.africa



Scan to visit app.parj.africa

Open Access Scholarship from PARJ

Empowering African Research | Advancing Global Knowledge