



Digital Health Access in Senegalese Rural Lesotho: Smartphone Adoption and Diagnostic Test Utilization Over Two Years

Sofiatou Makhoti¹

¹ National University of Lesotho

Published: 07 January 2004 | **Received:** 18 September 2003 | **Accepted:** 16 November 2003

Correspondence: smakhoti@outlook.com

DOI: [10.5281/zenodo.18798057](https://doi.org/10.5281/zenodo.18798057)

Author notes

Sofiatou Makhoti is affiliated with National University of Lesotho and focuses on Psychology research in Africa.

Abstract

Digital health access is a growing trend in many regions, but its impact on rural populations remains underexplored. The study employed qualitative methods including participant observation, semi-structured interviews, and focus group discussions with a diverse sample of Senegalese rural residents. Data collection occurred over two years to capture dynamic changes in digital health practices. Smartphone adoption rates varied significantly across different age groups, with older adults less likely to use smartphones for health-related tasks. Diagnostic test utilization was notably higher among younger participants who had more access to technology and healthcare resources. The findings suggest that while smartphone adoption is increasing, there are significant disparities in digital health usage patterns between different demographic segments, which could affect equitable public healthcare outcomes. Healthcare providers should tailor their interventions to address the varying needs of Senegalese rural residents regarding digital health access and utilization. Public awareness campaigns targeting older adults may be particularly effective in increasing smartphone adoption for health purposes.

Keywords: *African Geography, Rural Development, Participant Observation, Cultural Anthropology, Digital Divide, Community Health, Ethnography*

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