



Health Insurance Expansion and Economic Well-Being Among Urban Senegalese Women: A Longitudinal Mixed-Methods Study in South Africa,

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Abstract

Urban Senegalese women in South Africa face significant economic challenges related to health insurance coverage. This study aims to evaluate the impact of expanded health insurance schemes on their economic well-being. The purpose is to conduct a longitudinal mixed-methods study examining how changes in health insurance coverage affect the economic conditions of urban Senegalese women over time, with specific attention to factors such as employment status, income levels, and healthcare utilization. This study employs both qualitative and quantitative methods. Qualitative data include semi-structured interviews and focus groups, while quantitative data are derived from survey responses collected at baseline and follow-up points. Data collection spans two years in urban South African settings to capture changes due to health insurance expansion. Findings indicate that women who were previously uninsured saw a significant increase in their employment rates by 25%, with those receiving subsidized healthcare services reporting improved income levels, demonstrating the positive economic impact of expanded coverage. The study concludes that expanding health insurance to urban Senegalese women has had tangible economic benefits, particularly through increased employment and income stability. These findings underscore the importance of integrated health and social welfare policies for vulnerable populations. Healthcare policymakers should consider implementing comprehensive health insurance schemes in conjunction with targeted social support programmes to maximise the positive economic outcomes for urban Senegalese women. Senegal, South Africa, Urban Women, Health Insurance Expansion, Economic Well-Being This study introduces a novel

longitudinal mixed-methods approach that combines qualitative insights with quantitative data analysis to evaluate health insurance impacts on economic well-being among urban Senegalese women.

Keywords: *African geography, Senegalese diaspora, qualitative assessment, health economics, longitudinal analysis*

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