



Methodological Evaluation of Community Health Centre Systems in Tanzania: A Randomized Field Trial for Cost-Effectiveness Assessment

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Abstract

This study evaluates the cost-effectiveness of community health centre systems in Tanzania through a randomized field trial. A randomized field trial was conducted among 120 randomly selected communities across Tanzania. Participants were randomly assigned to either a control group (with standard services) or an intervention group (enhanced services including mobile health units). Data collected included healthcare utilization, patient satisfaction scores, and costs associated with service delivery. The trial found that the enhanced services significantly reduced average healthcare costs by 15% ($Y = -0.15X + C$, where Y represents cost savings per unit of population served) without compromising patient satisfaction (mean score: 8.5 out of 10). The study concludes that the implementation of enhanced community health centre systems is a cost-effective strategy for improving healthcare access in Tanzania. Based on these findings, it is recommended that government funding be allocated towards expanding and enhancing community health centre services to maximise their impact on healthcare outcomes and efficiency.

Keywords: *African geography, community health centres, randomized controlled trials, cost-effectiveness analysis, epidemiology, public health systems, geographic information systems*

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