



Virtual Reality Modules for HIV/AIDS Prevention in Rural Cameroon: An Effectiveness and Acceptance Analysis

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Abstract

Virtual reality (VR) technologies are increasingly being explored as a tool for enhancing health education in underserved communities. In rural Cameroon, where access to healthcare services is limited and traditional prevention methods may lack efficacy, integrating VR modules into HIV/AIDS prevention initiatives could offer an innovative approach. The study employed a combination of quantitative and qualitative research methods. Quantitative data were collected through surveys administered to participants who used VR modules, while qualitative insights were gathered from focus group discussions with community members. A total of 200 participants completed the survey, and 15 in-depth interviews were conducted. VR training significantly improved knowledge about HIV/AIDS prevention among participants ($p < 0.001$), leading to a 30% reduction in risky sexual behaviors reported. Community acceptance was high, with 85% of respondents indicating they would recommend VR modules for other community members. The integration of VR training modules into HIV/AIDS prevention programmes appears effective and well-received by rural Cameroonian communities. These findings suggest a promising avenue for expanding health education efforts in similar settings. Further research should be conducted to explore the long-term impact and scalability of VR-based interventions, with an emphasis on replicating these results across diverse populations. HIV/AIDS prevention, Virtual reality, Rural Cameroon, Community acceptance

Keywords: *Cameroonian, Mixed-Methods, Virtual-Reality, Quantitative-Evaluation, Qualitative-Analysis, Community-Survey, Acceptability-Study*

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