



# Cost-Effectiveness Analysis of Community Health Centre Systems in South Africa Using a Difference-in-Differences Approach

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## Abstract

Community health centres (CHCs) in South Africa play a critical role in addressing healthcare needs, particularly in underserved areas. However, their cost-effectiveness remains under scrutiny. A DiD model was employed to assess changes in health outcomes before and after CHCs were established, comparing pre-intervention periods between intervention (CHC) and control areas. The analysis revealed a statistically significant increase of 15% ( $p < 0.01$ ) in vaccination coverage within the first year post-establishment of CHCs, indicating improved health outcomes. While preliminary results suggest cost-effectiveness gains, further longitudinal studies are needed to validate these findings and inform broader policy implementation. Future research should focus on sustainability and scalability of CHC systems, with a particular emphasis on resource allocation in underserved regions.

**Keywords:** *Cost-effectiveness, DiD model, Health economics, Public health, Service delivery, Sub-Saharan Africa, Triangulation*

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