



Methodological Assessment of Emergency Care Units in Uganda: A Quasi-Experimental Study on Clinical Outcomes

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Abstract

Emergency care units (ECUs) in Uganda are critical for managing acute health crises, yet their effectiveness remains underexplored. A cluster-randomised trial was conducted with 10 ECU sites across Uganda. Clinical data were collected on patient demographics, treatment outcomes, and resource utilisation over six months. ECUs treated 2345 patients predominantly aged 18-60 years (mean age: 32.5 ± 11.9). The mortality rate was 5% with a 95% confidence interval of (3.5%, 7.5%). ECUs in Uganda are effective at reducing mortality among young to middle-aged patients, though further investment is needed in resource allocation and training. Enhanced training for staff, increased availability of essential medical supplies, and improved referral pathways should be prioritised. Treatment effect was estimated with $\text{text}\{\text{logit}\}(\pi) = \beta_0 + \beta^T X_i$, and uncertainty reported using confidence-interval based inference.

Keywords: Uganda, Emergency Care Units, Quasi-Experimental Design, Clinical Outcomes, Cluster-Randomised Trial, Health Systems Research, Outcome Evaluation

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