



# Risk Reduction Strategies in District Hospitals: A Field Trial Evaluation in South Africa

Nkosazana Khumalo<sup>1</sup>

<sup>1</sup> Department of Epidemiology, Agricultural Research Council (ARC)

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**Correspondence:** [nkhumalo@outlook.com](mailto:nkhumalo@outlook.com)

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## Author notes

*Nkosazana Khumalo is affiliated with Department of Epidemiology, Agricultural Research Council (ARC) and focuses on Medicine research in Africa.*

## Abstract

District hospitals in South Africa face significant challenges in managing patient risk effectively. A mixed-methods approach was employed, including quantitative data collection from hospital records and qualitative interviews with stakeholders to assess the impact of intervention programmes designed to reduce patient risks in district hospitals in South Africa. The analysis revealed a statistically significant reduction ( $p < 0.05$ ) in average risk scores by 23% among participating districts after implementing the new strategies, indicating an effective mechanism for managing healthcare risks. The randomized field trial demonstrated that strategic interventions significantly improved patient risk management within district hospitals, contributing to better health outcomes and resource efficiency. District hospital managers should continue to implement these evidence-based risk reduction strategies as a priority, alongside ongoing monitoring and evaluation of their effectiveness. risk reduction, healthcare quality, district hospitals, South Africa, randomized field trial Treatment effect was estimated with  $\text{text} \{ \text{logit} \} (\pi) = \beta_0 + \beta_1 X_i$ , and uncertainty reported using confidence-interval based inference.

**Keywords:** *Sub-Saharan, African, Hospital, Systems, Qualitative, Epidemiology*

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