



Methodological Evaluation of Community Health Centres Systems in South Africa: Quasi-Experimental Design for Clinical Outcomes Assessment

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Abstract

Community health centers (CHCs) in South Africa play a crucial role in primary healthcare delivery. Despite their importance, there is a need to evaluate and improve their effectiveness through rigorous methodological approaches. A mixed-methods approach combining quantitative data analysis from patient records and qualitative interviews with healthcare providers was employed. The study utilised a propensity score matching technique to ensure comparability between groups. The preliminary findings suggest that CHCs in urban areas have better clinical outcomes compared to those in rural settings, with an improvement rate of 15% over the last year. Further research is needed to explore the specific interventions and support systems necessary for improving healthcare delivery across all geographic regions in South Africa. Immediate investments should be made into upgrading infrastructure and training programmes specifically targeting rural CHCs to bridge the gap observed in this study. Treatment effect was estimated with $\text{text}\{\text{logit}\}(\pi) = \beta_0 + \beta^T p X_i$, and uncertainty reported using confidence-interval based inference.

Keywords: *Sub-Saharan, randomized controlled trial, fidelity assessment, process evaluation, outcome monitoring, service delivery models, community engagement*

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