



A Continental Perspective: Policy Implications of Medical Research in Africa from Morocco

Karim Benjelloun¹, Amal El Mansouri², Nadia Alami³

¹ Institut National de Recherche Halieutique (INRH)

² National Center for Scientific and Technical Research (CNRST)

³ Department of Public Health, National Center for Scientific and Technical Research (CNRST)

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Correspondence: kbenjelloun@hotmail.com

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Author notes

Karim Benjelloun is affiliated with Institut National de Recherche Halieutique (INRH) and focuses on Medicine research in Africa.

Amal El Mansouri is affiliated with National Center for Scientific and Technical Research (CNRST) and focuses on Medicine research in Africa.

Nadia Alami is affiliated with Department of Public Health, National Center for Scientific and Technical Research (CNRST) and focuses on Medicine research in Africa.

Abstract

Medical research is crucial for addressing Africa's distinct health challenges and informing sound policy. Morocco, with its evolving research landscape, serves as a relevant case study for examining how research is translated into health policy across the continent. This perspective piece critically analyses the policy implications of medical research conducted in Morocco. It uses this national context as a lens to explore broader continental challenges and opportunities in bridging the research-to-policy gap within African obstetrics and gynaecology. The analysis is based on a non-systematic review and synthesis of available literature and policy documents, combined with the author's professional observations. It adopts a reflective, narrative approach appropriate for a perspective article. Key insights: A persistent disconnect exists between research output and practical policy implementation. For example, despite research identifying causes of high maternal morbidity, updates to national clinical guidelines have been delayed. Research priorities are frequently misaligned with local public health needs. The Moroccan case illustrates that while biomedical research capacity is growing in Africa, systemic barriers continue to hinder its impact on health policy and outcomes. A concerted, structured effort is required to ensure research effectively serves African populations. Establish formal knowledge translation platforms linking researchers, clinicians, and policymakers. Prioritise funding for implementation science and policy-relevant research. Strengthen institutional frameworks to mandate the use of local evidence in health policy formulation. Health policy, Knowledge translation, Maternal health, Research utilisation, North Africa This article provides a focused continental perspective on the research-policy nexus, using the context of Morocco to generate actionable insights for improving evidence-informed policymaking in African women's health.

Keywords: *North Africa, health policy, translational research, research capacity building, evidence-based medicine, health systems research*



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