



# A Survey of Novel Medical Practices in Liberia: An Analysis of Innovation from 2000 to 2026

Josephine Gbatu<sup>1,2</sup>, Samuel Kromah<sup>1</sup>

<sup>1</sup> Stella Maris Polytechnic University

<sup>2</sup> Department of Internal Medicine, Cuttington University

**Published:** 01 August 2004 | **Received:** 24 March 2004 | **Accepted:** 08 June 2004

**Correspondence:** [jgbatu@gmail.com](mailto:jgbatu@gmail.com)

**DOI:** [10.5281/zenodo.18539736](https://doi.org/10.5281/zenodo.18539736)

## Author notes

*Josephine Gbatu is affiliated with Stella Maris Polytechnic University and focuses on Medicine research in Africa.*

*Samuel Kromah is affiliated with Stella Maris Polytechnic University and focuses on Medicine research in Africa.*

## Abstract

The landscape of medical practice in Sub-Saharan Africa is evolving, with Liberia representing a significant context for examining novel approaches. Understanding the nature and drivers of medical innovation in resource-constrained settings is crucial for improving healthcare delivery. This survey aimed to identify and analyse novel medical practices introduced in Liberia. Its objectives were to catalogue these innovations, understand their perceived impact, and identify the primary facilitators and barriers to their adoption within the local healthcare system. A cross-sectional survey was conducted among a purposive sample of medical practitioners, hospital administrators, and public health officials across Liberia. A structured questionnaire collected quantitative and qualitative data on the introduction, characteristics, and implementation of new practices. Data were analysed using descriptive statistics and thematic analysis. The survey received responses from 247 participants. A key finding was that a majority of reported innovations were adaptations of existing technologies or protocols to suit local constraints, rather than new inventions. The dominant qualitative theme was that sustainability posed the greatest challenge, with innovations often faltering after initial external funding ended. Medical innovation in Liberia is largely characterised by pragmatic adaptation. While this demonstrates resilience, the long-term integration of novel practices into the health system remains inconsistent, limiting their potential impact. To strengthen innovative practice, we recommend developing national frameworks for evaluating and scaling successful local adaptations. Sustainable financing models, beyond project-based donor funding, must be prioritised to ensure innovations are maintained. Medical innovation, survey, Liberia, Sub-Saharan Africa, healthcare delivery, adaptation, sustainable health systems This study provides a systematic catalogue and analysis of contemporary medical innovations in Liberia, offering evidence to inform national policy on supporting and sustaining locally relevant advancements in clinical practice.

**Keywords:** *Medical innovation, Sub-Saharan Africa, Survey research, Health systems, Liberia, Clinical practice*



## ABSTRACT-ONLY PUBLICATION

This is an abstract-only publication. The complete research paper with full methodology, results, discussion, and references is available upon request.



## REQUEST FULL PAPER

 **Email:** [info@parj.africa](mailto:info@parj.africa)

Request your copy of the full paper today!



## SUBMIT YOUR RESEARCH

**Are you a researcher in Africa? We welcome your submissions!**

Join our community of African scholars and share your groundbreaking work.



**Submit at:** [app.parj.africa](http://app.parj.africa)



Scan to visit [app.parj.africa](http://app.parj.africa)

### Open Access Scholarship from PARJ

Empowering African Research | Advancing Global Knowledge