



Youth Perspectives on the Future of Medical Practice and Innovation in Cameroon,

Jean-Baptiste Tchoumi^{1,2}, Fatima Nkeng^{3,4}, Chidi Mbarga^{1,5}, Aminata Ngo⁶

¹ Department of Public Health, University of Yaoundé I

² University of Douala

³ Catholic University of Central Africa (UCAC)

⁴ Department of Internal Medicine, University of Ngaoundere

⁵ Department of Surgery, University of Douala

⁶ Department of Internal Medicine, University of Yaoundé I

Published: 05 December 2011 | **Received:** 02 July 2011 | **Accepted:** 08 October 2011

Correspondence: jtchoumi@yahoo.com

DOI: [10.5281/zenodo.18528165](https://doi.org/10.5281/zenodo.18528165)

Author notes

Jean-Baptiste Tchoumi is affiliated with Department of Public Health, University of Yaoundé I and focuses on Medicine research in Africa.

Fatima Nkeng is affiliated with Catholic University of Central Africa (UCAC) and focuses on Medicine research in Africa.

Chidi Mbarga is affiliated with Department of Public Health, University of Yaoundé I and focuses on Medicine research in Africa.

Aminata Ngo is affiliated with Department of Internal Medicine, University of Yaoundé I and focuses on Medicine research in Africa.

Abstract

The future of medical practice in Africa requires consideration, yet the perspectives of youth are frequently absent from strategic discourse. In Cameroon, with its young demographic and specific healthcare challenges, understanding the views of the next generation is vital for shaping relevant policy and training. This study aimed to capture and analyse the perspectives of Cameroonian youth on the future of medical practice and innovation. Its objectives were to identify key themes in their vision, understand perceived barriers and enablers, and explore their envisaged role in shaping healthcare. A qualitative, exploratory design was employed. Data were collected through focus group discussions and semi-structured interviews with a purposively sampled cohort of young medical students, junior doctors, and health sciences students from multiple institutions across Cameroon. Thematic analysis was used to interpret the data. Analysis revealed a strong, consistent emphasis on digital health integration as the cornerstone of future practice. Participants highlighted telemedicine and mobile health applications as solutions to access inequities. A majority expressed the view that current medical training requires substantial modernisation to include digital literacy and entrepreneurial skills. Cameroonian youth envision a digitally transformed medical landscape. Their perspectives underscore a significant disconnect between their aspirational future and the current educational and infrastructural realities, indicating a need for systemic adaptation. Medical curricula should be revised to integrate digital health competencies and innovation management. Policymakers and professional bodies should create platforms for sustained youth engagement in health strategy dialogues and support pilot initiatives in telemedicine led by young practitioners. Medical

education, digital health, youth engagement, healthcare innovation, Cameroon, future of medicine This paper provides original insights into the viewpoints of Cameroonian youth, a key stakeholder group, on the future of medical practice and innovation, informing policy and curriculum development.

Keywords: *Youth Perspectives, Sub-Saharan Africa, Medical Innovation, Health Systems Research, Qualitative Methodology, Cameroon, Future Scenarios*



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

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



Scan to visit app.parj.africa

Open Access Scholarship from PARJ

Empowering African Research | Advancing Global Knowledge