



# Methodological Considerations for Analysing Gender Perspectives on Medicine in North Africa: An African Framework for Application in Eswatini

Nomsa Dlamini<sup>1</sup>, Siphon Mamba<sup>1</sup>

<sup>1</sup> University of Eswatini (UNESWA)

Published: 05 July 2015 | Received: 16 May 2015 | Accepted: 18 June 2015

Correspondence: [ndlamini@outlook.com](mailto:ndlamini@outlook.com)

DOI: [10.5281/zenodo.18530985](https://doi.org/10.5281/zenodo.18530985)

## Author notes

*Nomsa Dlamini is affiliated with University of Eswatini (UNESWA) and focuses on Medicine research in Africa.*

*Siphon Mamba is affiliated with University of Eswatini (UNESWA) and focuses on Medicine research in Africa.*

## Abstract

Research on gender perspectives in medicine in African contexts frequently employs frameworks from the Global North, which may not adequately reflect local socio-cultural realities. This gap is significant in regions like North Africa and in nations such as Eswatini, where distinct gender dynamics intersect with specific historical and healthcare structures. This methodology article aims to develop a context-sensitive African framework for analysing gender perspectives on medicine. Its objectives are to detail the framework's construction, its deliberate adaptation for application in Eswatini, and to provide guidelines for its implementation. The methodology entailed a critical synthesis of existing African feminist and social science literature, alongside an analysis of documented healthcare practices in North Africa. This informed the construction of a conceptual framework, which was subsequently adapted through a desk-based scenario analysis to ensure its relevance to Eswatini. The process is grounded in qualitative, participatory principles. As a methodology article, it presents no empirical results. The principal output is the developed framework, which is structured around three interlinked analytical themes: the negotiation of authority in clinical encounters, the gendered experience of therapeutic pathways, and the intersection of formal and informal care systems. A key methodological directive is to prioritise women's narratives of 'treatment journeys' over isolated clinical interactions. The proposed framework provides a structured, culturally-grounded tool for investigating gender and medicine in African settings. It offers a relevant analytical alternative to imported models for use in Eswatini, potentially improving the local validity of research. Researchers applying this framework in Eswatini should engage local community advisors during study design. Future work should employ the framework in empirical studies to evaluate its utility and refine its components. gender analysis, medical anthropology, research methodology, Eswatini, North Africa, healthcare access, African feminism. This article contributes a tailored methodological framework for analysing gender perspectives in African medical contexts, specifically adapted for Eswatini.

**Keywords:** *Gender analysis, Medical anthropology, Sub-Saharan Africa, Qualitative methodology, Postcolonial theory, Health equity, Socio-cultural determinants*





## 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