



Reconstructing Reproductive Healthcare: An Intervention Study on Post-Conflict Challenges and Opportunities in Mali

Amadou Coulibaly¹

¹ Department of Clinical Research, International Center for Tropical Agriculture (CIAT), Mali

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Correspondence: acoulibaly@gmail.com

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Author notes

Amadou Coulibaly is affiliated with Department of Clinical Research, International Center for Tropical Agriculture (CIAT), Mali and focuses on Medicine research in Africa.

Abstract

Post-conflict settings in sub-Saharan Africa present profound challenges to fragmented and under-resourced reproductive healthcare systems. Mali exemplifies this context, where protracted instability has severely disrupted maternal and gynaecological services. This study aimed to design, implement, and evaluate a multi-faceted intervention to rebuild essential reproductive health services in a post-conflict region of Mali. Its primary objectives were to improve access to antenatal care, skilled birth attendance, and postnatal services. A mixed-methods, quasi-experimental intervention study was conducted. The intervention comprised training community health workers, re-equipping primary care clinics, and establishing referral pathways. Data were collected via facility audits, patient surveys, and focus group discussions with healthcare staff. A comparison area received standard care. Preliminary analysis indicates a positive direction of change. A key finding was a reported increase in the proportion of facility-based births in the intervention area, with initial data suggesting an approximate 25% relative improvement compared to the control area. Qualitative themes highlighted improved community trust and healthcare worker morale. A coordinated, capacity-building intervention can catalyse the reconstruction of reproductive healthcare in post-conflict Mali, addressing critical service gaps and leveraging local resilience. Sustainable rebuilding requires integrated strategies combining infrastructure, training, and community engagement. National health policies should incorporate specific post-conflict frameworks, and long-term international support should focus on health system resilience. post-conflict, reproductive health, maternal health, health systems strengthening, intervention study, Mali, global health This study provides an evidence-based model for reconstructing essential obstetric and gynaecological services in post-conflict African states, contributing practical knowledge to the fields of global health and health policy.

Keywords: *Post-conflict health systems, Reproductive health, Sub-Saharan Africa, Implementation science, Humanitarian intervention, Health systems strengthening, Mali*



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