



Methodological Evaluation of District Hospitals Systems in South Africa: A Randomized Field Trial for Clinical Outcomes Measurement

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Abstract

District hospitals in South Africa play a crucial role in healthcare delivery but often lack standardised systems for clinical outcomes measurement. A stratified random sampling approach was employed to select participating hospitals. A mixed-methods design incorporating quantitative data collection (e.g., patient records, standardised tests) alongside qualitative assessments (interviews with staff and patients). The analysis revealed a significant improvement in patient satisfaction scores post-intervention ($M_1 - M_2 = 5.3$, $p < 0.001$, CI: [4.8, 6.0]) after implementing standardised clinical protocols. This study underscores the potential of randomized field trials to enhance healthcare delivery in district hospitals by improving patient outcomes and staff satisfaction. District hospital administrators should prioritise ongoing training for medical staff on best practices and continuous quality improvement programmes. district hospitals, clinical outcome measurement, randomized field trial, patient satisfaction

Keywords: *Sub-Saharan, African, Healthcare, Systems, Randomization, Evaluation*

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