



Methodological Evaluation of District Hospitals Systems in South Africa: A Randomized Field Trial on Adoption Rates

Kgosimiso Khumalo^{1,2}, Makhotsa Motshega^{2,3}, Siyabongiwe Nkosi⁴, Vuyiswa Van Zyl⁵

¹ Department of Epidemiology, University of Fort Hare

² Rhodes University

³ Department of Public Health, University of Fort Hare

⁴ Department of Internal Medicine, University of the Western Cape

⁵ University of Fort Hare

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Correspondence: kkhumalo@outlook.com

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Author notes

Kgosimiso Khumalo is affiliated with Department of Epidemiology, University of Fort Hare and focuses on Medicine research in Africa.

Makhotsa Motshega is affiliated with Rhodes University and focuses on Medicine research in Africa.

Siyabongiwe Nkosi is affiliated with Department of Internal Medicine, University of the Western Cape and focuses on Medicine research in Africa.

Vuyiswa Van Zyl is affiliated with University of Fort Hare and focuses on Medicine research in Africa.

Abstract

District hospitals in South Africa face challenges in adopting new healthcare technologies and protocols. A randomized field trial was conducted to measure the adoption rates of technological and procedural innovations among district hospitals. Randomization ensures that each hospital has an equal chance of being assigned to any intervention group. The analysis revealed a significant increase in adoption rates from baseline levels, with a proportion of 75% hospitals showing improvement after implementing new protocols. This study provides evidence for the efficacy of randomized trials in assessing healthcare system improvements and can guide policy reforms in South Africa's district hospital systems. Future research should explore long-term sustainability measures to maintain adoption rates over time. Treatment effect was estimated with $\text{logit}(\pi) = \beta_0 + \beta_1 X_i$, and uncertainty reported using confidence-interval based inference.

Keywords: African health systems, randomized trials, healthcare reform, diffusion of innovations, qualitative evaluation, community engagement, outcome assessment

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