



The Economic Impact Analysis of Monkeypox Stigma-Related Treatment Delays on Healthcare Systems in West African Communities

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Abstract

Purpose: To analyze longitudinal trends in monkeypox management across West African countries from 1970-2024, focusing on healthcare access, intervention effectiveness, and economic impacts.

Method: Systematic review and meta-analysis following PRISMA guidelines, utilizing R statistical software and React with Recharts for visualization. Data extracted from peer-reviewed articles, WHO reports, and national health databases.

Findings: Significant improvements in healthcare access (urban rates reaching 65% in Nigeria by 2022), reduction in treatment delays (Ghana achieving 28% by Q4 2022), and economic impact management. Ghana and Nigeria demonstrated superior outcomes through integrated healthcare approaches and effective community engagement.

Recommendations: Implementation of integrated healthcare systems combining traditional and modern approaches, establishment of mobile healthcare units for rural areas, development of culturally appropriate intervention strategies, and creation of regional resource-sharing networks.

Keywords: Monkeypox management, Healthcare access, Economic impact, Intervention effectiveness, West African healthcare systems.

Cite this paper as: Mohammed, M. I., Aych, M. A., Yeboah, V. O., Kakra, M. O. & John-Bosco, A. (2024). The Economic Impact Analysis of Monkeypox Stigma-Related Treatment Delays on Healthcare Systems in West African Communities. Ghana Journal of Nursing and Midwifery (GJNMID), 2024 (4). <https://doi.org/10.69600/gjnmid.2024.v01.i04.171-197>



Introduction

The resurgence of monkeypox in West Africa presents complex public health challenges requiring comprehensive analysis of intervention strategies and their effectiveness. Recent studies by Banjar and Alaqeel (2024) [1] highlight increasing concerns about healthcare access disparities and economic impacts of disease management. This research addresses crucial gaps in understanding longitudinal trends of monkeypox management across West African countries from 1970 to 2024.

While previous research, including Yinka-Ogunleye et al.'s (2019) [24] analysis of the Nigerian outbreak, provided valuable insights into specific periods, comprehensive longitudinal analysis remained limited. This study bridges this gap by examining long-term trends in healthcare access, intervention effectiveness, and economic impacts across multiple West African nations.

The purpose of this paper is to analyze the evolution of monkeypox management strategies across West African countries, focusing on identifying successful interventions and their economic implications.

The specific objectives are to:

1. Evaluate longitudinal trends in healthcare access and stigma patterns across West African countries (1970-2024)
2. Assess the effectiveness of various intervention strategies in reducing treatment delays and improving healthcare outcomes
3. Analyze economic impacts of different intervention approaches and their cost-effectiveness
4. Compare successful intervention models from Ghana and Nigeria with other West African countries

The study addresses gaps identified by Adetifa et al. (2023) [21] regarding limited understanding of intervention sustainability in resource-constrained settings. However, areas requiring further investigation include digital health integration in monkeypox management and long-term impacts of community-led interventions, as suggested by Torres et al. (2023) [19].

This research contributes significantly to understanding successful intervention strategies while highlighting areas needing additional investigation, particularly in sustainable healthcare delivery systems for resource-limited settings.

Significance to Nursing and Midwifery Practice

This study provides crucial insights for nursing and midwifery practice in managing monkeypox across West Africa. The longitudinal analysis demonstrates the importance of culturally competent healthcare delivery, particularly in reducing treatment delays and stigma. For nurses and midwives, understanding the temporal patterns of stigma and healthcare-seeking behavior enables more effective patient engagement and community outreach planning. The detailed analysis of intervention effectiveness provides practical guidance for developing culturally sensitive care protocols, while the seasonal variation data helps in resource



allocation and staff preparation for peak periods. The economic impact analysis assists healthcare administrators in optimal resource allocation, particularly relevant for nursing and midwifery training programs. As documented by Iroezindu et al. (2023) [14], these findings are especially valuable for frontline healthcare workers in rural settings where stigma significantly impacts treatment delays.

Scientific and Clinical Evidence Contribution

This research extends existing knowledge by providing comprehensive longitudinal analysis of monkeypox management across West Africa from 1970-2024. The study establishes clear correlations between intervention strategies and healthcare outcomes, providing a methodological framework for future investigations into health-related stigma. The economic impact analysis offers new insights into cost-effectiveness of various intervention approaches, building upon work by Reynolds et al. (2017) [23]. The comparative analysis of regional variations opens new avenues for research into cultural determinants of health behavior. The visualization methodology provides innovative approaches to data presentation and analysis, contributing to evidence-based decision-making in healthcare management.

Extension of Sub-Saharan African Studies

This analysis significantly extends previous research by Yinka-Ogunleye et al. (2019) [24] and Adetifa et al. (2023) [21] by providing comprehensive longitudinal trends across multiple West African nations. The study's unique contribution lies in its integration of economic impact analysis with healthcare access patterns, providing crucial insights for resource-limited settings. The extensive temporal coverage (1970-2024) offers unprecedented understanding of intervention evolution and effectiveness, suggesting critical areas for future research including digital health solutions in reducing stigma and community-led initiatives in sustainable healthcare delivery.

Literature Review

The emergence and management of monkeypox in West Africa presents a complex public health challenge that intersects with healthcare access, social stigma, and economic considerations. This review examines the evolution of monkeypox management from 1970 to 2024, focusing on key thematic areas that have shaped understanding and intervention strategies.

Theoretical and Conceptual Framework

The theoretical foundation of this research draws from multiple conceptual frameworks. Smith's (2007) [8] stigma communication theory provides a basis for understanding social responses to disease outbreaks. This is complemented by Corrigan and Watson's (2002) [16] framework for understanding stigma's impact on healthcare behavior.

The intervention effectiveness framework developed by Reynolds et al. (2017) [23] provides a structure for evaluating healthcare delivery approaches. This is enhanced by Torres et al.'s (2023) [19] model for analyzing intervention success in culturally diverse settings.



Theory Development and Application

The theoretical foundations identified in the literature continue to evolve. Smith's (2007) [8] stigma communication theory has been enhanced by subsequent research, particularly in understanding cultural contexts. This theoretical development is evidenced in works by Torres et al. (2023) [19] and Logie (2022) [20], who extend theoretical understanding to contemporary healthcare challenges.

The literature demonstrates significant progress in understanding monkeypox management while highlighting areas requiring further investigation. It emphasizes the importance of integrated approaches that consider medical, social, and economic factors in healthcare delivery.

Historical Context and Disease Evolution

The first documented cases of monkeypox in West Africa emerged in 1970, marking the beginning of a significant public health challenge. According to early documentation analyzed by Emergence of monkeypox in West Africa and Central Africa, 1970-2017 [12], the disease initially manifested as sporadic zoonotic infections. The evolution from isolated cases to a concerning public health issue reflects changing transmission patterns and healthcare challenges. Yinka-Ogunleye et al. (2019) [24] documented the significant 2017-18 Nigerian outbreak, providing crucial insights into the disease's changing epidemiology and healthcare response patterns.

Healthcare Access and Regional Variations

Healthcare access patterns across West Africa demonstrate significant geographical and social disparities. Iroezindu et al. (2023) [14] highlight how healthcare access is complicated by multiple layers of stigma, creating unique challenges for healthcare delivery systems. This understanding is enhanced by Adetifa et al.'s (2023) [21] analysis of healthcare challenges in resource-limited settings, emphasizing the need for context-specific intervention strategies.

The urban-rural divide in healthcare access remains a persistent challenge. Manirambona et al. (2022) [5] emphasized the importance of testing and vaccination programs that address stigma-related barriers, particularly in rural areas. This understanding is complemented by Lee and Morling's (2022) [6] analysis of global outbreak patterns, identifying specific challenges in resource-limited settings.

Stigma and Social Impact

The manifestation and impact of monkeypox-related stigma represent a crucial area of investigation. Smith's (2007) [8] foundational work on stigma communication provides a theoretical framework for understanding how disease-related stigma develops and perpetuates within communities. This understanding is enhanced by Ablon's (2002) [15] analysis of the nature of stigma in medical conditions and Corrigan and Watson's (2002) [16] examination of stigma's impact on healthcare-seeking behavior.

Torres et al.'s (2023) [19] evaluation of monkeypox knowledge and stigma demonstrates how these factors influence vaccination willingness and healthcare-seeking behavior. Logie's (2022) [20] comparative analysis



of HIV, COVID-19, and mpox stigma provides crucial insights into how lessons from previous disease outbreaks can inform current stigma reduction strategies.

Intervention Strategies and Effectiveness

The effectiveness of various intervention approaches has evolved significantly over time. Reynolds et al.'s (2017) [23] work on improving care and treatment in low-resource settings provides valuable insights into practical intervention approaches. The World Health Organization's guidance [22] has been instrumental in shaping intervention strategies, particularly in resource-limited settings.

Banjar and Alaqeel's (2024) [1] analysis of stigma and risk communication challenges emphasizes the importance of culturally appropriate intervention design. This understanding is crucial for developing effective intervention programs, as highlighted by Ennab et al. (2022) [4] in their documentation of misinformation management challenges during disease outbreaks.

Economic Impact and Resource Allocation

The economic implications of monkeypox management represent a significant area of concern. Adetifa et al. (2023) [21] note that communities experiencing high stigma levels show reduced economic productivity and social cohesion. The cost-effectiveness of different intervention strategies has been extensively analyzed, with particular attention to resource allocation in limited-setting healthcare systems.

Community Engagement and Healthcare Delivery

The literature emphasizes the crucial role of community engagement in successful monkeypox management. Mutalemwa et al.'s (2008) [17] research on HIV/AIDS-related stigma in Tanzania provides valuable insights into community-based stigma reduction strategies. This understanding is particularly relevant for monkeypox management, as documented by Turpin et al. (2023) [18] in their examination of stigma as a barrier to healthcare access.

Cultural competency emerges as a critical factor in healthcare delivery. Yinka-Ogunleye et al. (2019) [24] highlight how successful intervention programs incorporate cultural understanding and community leadership. This approach aligns with findings from Manirambona et al. (2022) [5], who emphasize the importance of culturally sensitive testing and vaccination programs.

Healthcare System Integration

The integration of traditional and modern healthcare systems represents a significant theme in the literature. Reynolds et al. (2017) [23] document how successful healthcare delivery in low-resource settings often depends on effective system integration. This understanding is enhanced by Adetifa et al.'s (2023) [21] analysis of healthcare challenges in African contexts.

The role of healthcare workers emerges as crucial in system integration. Iroezindu et al. (2023) [14] emphasize how healthcare worker training and cultural competency affect treatment outcomes. This aligns



with WHO guidance [22] on clinical management and infection prevention strategies.

Resource Allocation and Sustainability

Sustainable resource allocation represents a critical concern in the literature. Logie (2022) [20] emphasizes the importance of sustainable approaches to healthcare delivery, particularly in resource-limited settings. This understanding is complemented by Banjar and Alaqeel's (2024) [1] analysis of healthcare resource management in challenging environments.

The economic sustainability of intervention programs receives significant attention. Torres et al.'s (2023) [19] evaluation of intervention effectiveness highlights the importance of cost-effective program design. This understanding is crucial for developing sustainable healthcare delivery systems, as noted by Ennab et al. (2022) [4].

Monitoring and Evaluation Systems

The literature emphasizes the importance of robust monitoring and evaluation systems. Dsouza et al. (2023) [36] highlight the need for sophisticated approaches to tracking intervention effectiveness. This aligns with findings from Shukla et al. (2023) [31] regarding the importance of comprehensive program evaluation.

Data collection and analysis methods receive significant attention. The work of März et al. (2022) [32] provides valuable insights into effective monitoring approaches. This understanding is enhanced by Yang et al.'s (2022) [33] analysis of healthcare data management systems.

Regional Collaboration and Knowledge Sharing

The importance of regional collaboration emerges as a significant theme. Adetifa et al. (2023) [21] emphasize how shared experiences and resources can improve healthcare outcomes. This understanding is supported by Reynolds et al.'s (2017) [23] analysis of healthcare delivery improvements in resource-limited settings.

Knowledge sharing mechanisms receive particular attention. Logie's (2022) [20] comparative analysis demonstrates the value of learning from diverse healthcare experiences. This aligns with WHO guidance [9] on risk communication and community engagement strategies.

The literature review reveals the complex interplay of social, economic, and healthcare factors in monkeypox management. It demonstrates the evolution of understanding from initial disease identification to comprehensive management strategies, highlighting the importance of integrated approaches that consider both medical and social aspects of disease control.

Research Methodology

This study employed a systematic review and meta-analysis approach following PRISMA guidelines, as established by Banjar and Alaqeel (2024) [1] in their analysis of monkeypox stigma. Data extraction covered literature from 1970-2024, focusing on healthcare access, intervention effectiveness, and economic impacts across West African countries.



Primary data sources included peer-reviewed articles, WHO reports, and national health databases. Following Torres et al.'s (2023) [19] methodology, we utilized structured data extraction protocols to ensure consistency. The analysis incorporated quantitative metrics of healthcare access, stigma levels, and intervention effectiveness from comprehensive studies by Yinka-Ogunleye et al. (2019) [24] and Iroezindu et al. (2023) [14].

Statistical analysis employed R statistical software (version 4.2.0) for correlation analyses and significance testing, aligning with analytical frameworks described by Dsouza et al. (2023) [36]. Data visualization utilized React with Recharts library for interactive components, implementing design principles from WHO's guidelines for health data presentation [22].

Economic impact assessment followed cost-effectiveness analysis methods outlined by Logie (2022) [20], incorporating both direct healthcare costs and indirect societal impacts. Intervention effectiveness metrics were standardized using Reynolds et al.'s (2017) [23] framework, enabling comparative analysis across regional implementations.

To ensure replicability, all data extraction and analysis procedures were documented following PRISMA guidelines. The analytical workflow, including data cleaning, transformation, and visualization scripts, has been preserved in research data repositories. Time series analysis of seasonal variations employed methods outlined by Marz et al. (2022) [32], using moving averages and seasonal decomposition.

The study's methodology builds upon successful analyses by previous researchers, particularly Manirambona et al. (2022) [5] and Ennab et al. (2022) [4], while incorporating recent advances in public health data analysis techniques. This approach enables comprehensive examination of monkeypox trends while maintaining methodological rigor and reproducibility.

Results & Analysis

Longitudinal Trend Analysis 1970-2024

This longitudinal monkeypox trend analysis comprises data across West African countries from 1970-2024, with focus on key trends supported by the literature.

Historical Case Trends by Country (1970-2024)

The longitudinal analysis of monkeypox cases across West African countries reveals significant patterns of disease emergence and transmission dynamics from 1970 to 2024. According to the visualization, the initial period (1970-1980) showed relatively low case numbers, with Nigeria recording 15% case prevalence, followed by Ghana at 12%, and the Democratic Republic of Congo (DRC) at 18%. This aligns with findings from the literature documenting the emergence of monkeypox in West and Central Africa between 1970-2017 [12], which established the foundational understanding of regional disease patterns.

The period between 1981-1990 marked a notable increase in case numbers across all countries, with Nigeria experiencing a rise to 22%, Ghana to 18%, and DRC to 25%. This trend corresponds to the early



documentation of human-to-human transmission patterns, as noted by Thornhill et al. (2022) [13]. The visualization demonstrates a steady upward trajectory in case numbers during the 1990s, with Nigeria reaching 30%, Ghana 25%, and DRC 35%, reflecting the growing recognition of monkeypox as a significant public health concern.

A marked acceleration in case numbers is observed from 2001-2010, with Nigeria reporting 42%, Ghana 38%, and DRC 45% case prevalence. This period coincides with improved surveillance systems and reporting mechanisms, as documented by Yinka-Ogunleye et al. (2019) [24]. The data shows a particularly sharp increase during 2011-2017, with Nigeria reaching 55%, Ghana 50%, and DRC 58%, indicating the disease's growing public health significance.

The most dramatic increase occurred during 2018-2020, with Nigeria recording 65%, Ghana 62%, and DRC 68% case prevalence. This surge aligns with findings from Iroezindu et al. (2023) [14], who documented increased human-to-human transmission patterns and the challenges of disease surveillance during this period. The visualization shows peak case numbers during 2021-2022, with Nigeria reaching 75%, Ghana 72%, and DRC 78%, corresponding to the global outbreak period described by Banjar and Alaqeel (2024) [1].

Interestingly, the visualization shows a slight decline in case numbers during 2023-2024, with Nigeria dropping to 68%, Ghana to 65%, and DRC to 72%. This trend may reflect the implementation of more effective control measures and improved healthcare responses, as suggested by Adetifa et al. (2023) [21]. The comparative analysis reveals that DRC consistently maintained the highest case numbers throughout the study period, while Ghana generally showed lower case prevalence compared to other countries in the region.

Sierra Leone and Cameroon demonstrated similar patterns but with generally lower case numbers throughout the study period. Sierra Leone's cases increased from 10% in 1970-1980 to a peak of 68% in 2021-2022, while Cameroon's cases rose from 13% to 70% during the same period. This regional variation in case distribution aligns with findings from Reynolds et al. (2017) [23], who highlighted the importance of considering local contexts in disease surveillance and control efforts.

The visualization also reveals interesting temporal patterns in disease transmission, with all countries showing accelerated case increases during the periods 2011-2017 and 2018-2022. This trend corresponds with observations by Ennab et al. (2022) [4], who documented the challenges of managing disease outbreaks and misinformation during these periods. The data suggests that while all countries experienced similar overall trends, the magnitude and timing of case increases varied significantly between countries, reflecting differences in healthcare systems, surveillance capabilities, and intervention strategies.

The comparative analysis of case trends across countries also reveals important patterns in disease spread and control efforts. Nigeria and Ghana, despite having high case numbers, showed more consistent patterns of increase and better control during peak periods, possibly due to more robust healthcare systems and intervention strategies. In contrast, DRC's consistently higher case numbers throughout the study period may reflect the challenges of healthcare delivery and disease control in resource-limited settings, as discussed by



Lee and Morling (2022) [6].

Healthcare Access Evolution (1970-2024)

The visualization of healthcare access evolution across West African countries from 1970 to 2024 demonstrates significant transformations in healthcare delivery and accessibility. During the initial period (1970-1980), healthcare access was notably limited, with Nigeria showing 25% access rates, Ghana 22%, and DRC 20%. This period was characterized by heavy reliance on traditional healthcare systems, as documented by Manirambona et al. (2022) [5], who emphasized the historical importance of traditional healing practices in early disease management.

The transformation in healthcare access became more pronounced during 1981-1990, with Nigeria's access rates increasing to 35%, Ghana to 32%, and DRC to 28%. This improvement coincided with early efforts to integrate modern healthcare practices with traditional systems, as noted by Torres et al. (2023) [19]. The visualization reveals a steady upward trend in healthcare access during the 1991-2000 period, with Nigeria reaching 45%, Ghana 42%, and DRC 38%, reflecting growing investments in healthcare infrastructure and service delivery.

A significant acceleration in healthcare access improvement is observed from 2001-2010, with Nigeria achieving 55% access rates, Ghana 52%, and DRC 48%. This period marked a crucial transition in healthcare delivery systems, as documented by Adetifa et al. (2023) [21], who highlighted the importance of strengthening healthcare infrastructure in resource-limited settings. The visualization shows continued improvement during 2011-2017, with Nigeria reaching 60%, Ghana 58%, and DRC 52% access rates, indicating sustained efforts in healthcare system development.

The period 2018-2020 saw further improvements, with Nigeria maintaining 65% access rates, Ghana 62%, and DRC 55%. This progress aligns with observations by Yinka-Ogunleye et al. (2019) [24], who documented the expansion of healthcare services during the 2017-18 outbreak period. The most recent data from 2023-2024 shows the highest access rates, with Nigeria reaching 75%, Ghana 72%, and DRC 65%, reflecting sustained investments in healthcare infrastructure and service delivery.

The comparative analysis reveals interesting regional variations in healthcare access evolution. Sierra Leone and Cameroon showed similar patterns of improvement but generally maintained lower access rates compared to Nigeria and Ghana. Sierra Leone's access rates increased from 18% in 1970-1980 to 70% in 2023-2024, while Cameroon's improved from 21% to 71% during the same period. These improvements reflect the implementation of targeted healthcare interventions and community engagement strategies, as discussed by Logie (2022) [20].

The visualization also highlights the persistent urban-rural divide in healthcare access across all countries. This disparity is particularly evident in the DRC, where access rates, though improving, consistently lagged behind other countries. This aligns with findings from Iroezindu et al. (2023) [14], who documented the challenges of healthcare delivery in rural and resource-limited settings. The data suggests that while all countries made significant progress in improving healthcare access, the rate and extent of improvement varied



considerably based on local contexts and resources.

The evolution of healthcare access also reflects changes in healthcare seeking behavior and community engagement. Early periods show lower access rates partly due to stigma and traditional beliefs, as documented by Smith (2007) [8] in their analysis of stigma communication. The gradual improvement in access rates corresponds with increased community awareness and reduced stigma, as noted by Corrigan and Watson (2002) [16] in their examination of stigma's impact on healthcare-seeking behavior.

The role of international organizations and global health initiatives becomes evident in the acceleration of healthcare access improvement post-2000. This period coincides with increased global attention to neglected tropical diseases and strengthening of healthcare systems, as highlighted by the WHO's guidance on clinical management and infection prevention [22]. The visualization shows that countries receiving substantial international support, such as Nigeria and Ghana, achieved more rapid improvements in healthcare access compared to others.

The data also reveals the impact of various healthcare delivery models on access rates. Countries that successfully integrated traditional and modern healthcare systems, as suggested by Reynolds et al. (2017) [23], showed more consistent improvements in access rates. This integration was particularly effective in Nigeria and Ghana, where the visualization shows steady upward trends in access rates throughout the study period.

Intervention Methods Evolution (1970-2024)

The longitudinal analysis of intervention methods evolution reveals a significant transformation in monkeypox management approaches across West African countries from 1970 to 2024. The visualization demonstrates that traditional intervention methods dominated the early period (1970-1980) at 80% utilization, while modern healthcare approaches represented only 20% of interventions. According to Dsouza et al. (2023) [36], this early period was characterized by strong reliance on community-based traditional healing practices and limited integration with formal healthcare systems.

The transition period of 1981-1990 marked the beginning of a gradual shift, with traditional methods declining to 70% and modern healthcare approaches increasing to 35%. This period also saw the emergence of structured community engagement programs, reaching 52% implementation rates. The visualization shows that cost efficiency during this period remained relatively low at 38%, reflecting the challenges of early intervention program implementation, as documented by Banjar and Alaqeel (2024) [1].

A more pronounced transformation occurred during 1991-2000, with traditional methods reducing to 60% while modern healthcare interventions increased to 48%. Community engagement continued to strengthen, reaching 58% implementation. This shift aligns with findings from Mutalemwa et al. (2008) [17], who documented similar transitions in healthcare intervention strategies during this period. The visualization indicates that cost efficiency improved to 45%, suggesting better resource utilization as intervention methods evolved.



The period 2001-2010 marked a crucial turning point, with modern healthcare interventions (62%) surpassing traditional methods (50%) for the first time. Community engagement reached 65%, reflecting growing recognition of its importance in intervention success. This trend corresponds with observations by Adetifa et al. (2023) [21], who emphasized the role of integrated intervention approaches in improving healthcare outcomes. Cost efficiency continued to improve, reaching 55% during this period.

The acceleration of modern intervention methods became more pronounced during 2011-2017, with modern healthcare reaching 72% implementation while traditional methods declined to 42%. Community engagement strengthened to 70%, and cost efficiency improved to 62%. This transformation period aligns with findings from Ennab et al. (2022) [4], who documented the challenges and successes of implementing modern intervention strategies in traditional settings.

The most recent periods (2018-2024) show the culmination of this evolutionary process, with modern healthcare interventions reaching 85% implementation by 2023-2024, while traditional methods declined to 32%. Community engagement achieved its highest level at 80%, and cost efficiency improved to 75%. This modern intervention dominance reflects the successful integration of evidence-based practices with community-centered approaches, as discussed by Reynolds et al. (2017) [23].

The comparative analysis across countries reveals important variations in intervention evolution. Nigeria and Ghana demonstrated faster adoption of modern intervention methods, reaching 82% and 85% implementation rates respectively by 2021-2022. This success aligns with observations by Yinka-Ogunleye et al. (2019) [24], who documented the effectiveness of integrated intervention approaches in these countries. The DRC showed slower transition rates but achieved significant improvements, reaching 78% modern intervention implementation by 2021-2022.

The visualization also highlights the crucial role of community engagement in intervention success. All countries showed steady improvements in community engagement metrics, from initial rates below 45% in 1970-1980 to over 75% by 2023-2024. This trend corresponds with findings from Torres et al. (2023) [19], emphasizing the importance of community participation in intervention effectiveness.

The evolution of cost efficiency metrics provides important insights into intervention optimization. The visualization shows steady improvements in cost efficiency across all countries, from initial rates of 30% in 1970-1980 to over 70% by 2023-2024. This improvement reflects better resource utilization and program management, as documented by Logie (2022) [20] in their analysis of stigma-informed intervention approaches.

Economic Impact Trends (1970-2024)

The longitudinal analysis of economic impact trends across West African countries reveals complex patterns of healthcare costs, resource allocation, and financial burden from 1970 to 2024. The visualization shows that during 1970-1980, cost impacts were relatively low, with Nigeria at 30%, Ghana at 28%, and DRC at 32% above baseline healthcare costs. This period's lower economic impact reflects the predominant use of traditional healthcare systems, as noted by Adetifa et al. (2023) [21], who documented the historical cost



patterns of disease management in resource-limited settings.

The period 1981-1990 saw increased economic impacts, with Nigeria reaching 38%, Ghana 35%, and DRC 40% above baseline costs. This rise coincided with the initial integration of modern healthcare approaches, as documented by Reynolds et al. (2017) [23], who analyzed the economic implications of improving care and treatment in low-resource settings. The visualization demonstrates a steady increase in economic impact during 1991-2000, with Nigeria reaching 45%, Ghana 42%, and DRC 48% above baseline costs.

A significant acceleration in economic impact occurred during 2001-2010, with Nigeria showing 58%, Ghana 55%, and DRC 62% increased costs. This period marked substantial investments in healthcare infrastructure and intervention programs, aligning with observations by Yinka-Ogunleye et al. (2019) [24] regarding the economic challenges of expanding healthcare services. The visualization shows continued cost increases during 2011-2017, with Nigeria reaching 68%, Ghana 65%, and DRC 72% above baseline.

The peak economic impact period occurred during 2021-2022, with Nigeria reaching 85%, Ghana 82%, and DRC 88% above baseline costs. This surge corresponds with findings from Banjar and Alaqeel (2024) [1], who analyzed the economic challenges of implementing comprehensive intervention programs. Interestingly, the visualization shows a moderate decline in economic impact during 2023-2024, with Nigeria decreasing to 78%, Ghana to 75%, and DRC to 82%, suggesting improved cost efficiency in intervention implementation.

The comparative analysis reveals significant regional variations in economic impact patterns. Sierra Leone and Cameroon demonstrated similar trends but generally maintained lower cost increases compared to other countries. Sierra Leone's economic impact increased from 25% in 1970-1980 to 74% in 2023-2024, while Cameroon's rose from 27% to 76%. These variations reflect differences in healthcare system development and resource allocation strategies, as discussed by Iroezindu et al. (2023) [14].

The visualization also highlights the relationship between intervention effectiveness and economic impact. Countries that implemented integrated intervention approaches, as suggested by Torres et al. (2023) [19], showed better cost-efficiency ratios despite higher initial investments. This trend is particularly evident in Nigeria and Ghana, where the visualization shows more moderate cost increases during the latter periods despite expanded intervention programs.

The economic data reveals important patterns in resource allocation and program sustainability. The initial low-cost period (1970-1980) reflected limited healthcare investments, while the subsequent increases correspond with expanded healthcare services and intervention programs. This evolution aligns with findings from Logie (2022) [20], who emphasized the importance of sustainable resource allocation in healthcare program implementation.

The relationship between economic impact and healthcare outcomes becomes evident in the visualization's long-term trends. Despite higher costs during 2021-2022, the improved healthcare outcomes and reduced stigma levels, as documented by Smith (2007) [8], suggest effective resource utilization. The moderate cost reductions during 2023-2024 indicate the development of more efficient intervention strategies and better



resource management practices.

The economic impact patterns also reflect the influence of international support and funding mechanisms. Countries receiving substantial international assistance, as noted by Manirambona et al. (2022) [5], showed more stable economic impact patterns despite implementing comprehensive intervention programs. This observation highlights the importance of international collaboration in managing healthcare costs and ensuring program sustainability.

The visualization provides insights into the cost-effectiveness of different intervention strategies over time. The gradual shift from traditional to modern healthcare approaches, while initially increasing costs, ultimately led to improved cost-efficiency ratios, as suggested by Ennab et al. (2022) [4]. This trend supports the economic viability of integrated intervention approaches, despite higher initial investments.

Comprehensive Monkeypox Trend Analysis (2022)

Healthcare Access and Stigma Levels by Country (2022)

The visualization of healthcare access and stigma levels across West African countries in 2022 reveals significant patterns and disparities. Nigeria demonstrated the highest urban healthcare access rate at 65%, while maintaining a rural access rate of 35%, creating a notable urban-rural divide. This pattern aligns with findings from Yinka-Ogunleye et al. (2019) [24], who documented similar healthcare access disparities during their analysis of the Nigerian outbreak. The stigma level in Nigeria reached 75%, reflecting complex social and cultural challenges in healthcare delivery.

Ghana showed slightly lower but more balanced access rates, with 62% urban access and 38% rural access, indicating more equitable healthcare distribution. The country's stigma level of 70% suggests marginally better success in stigma reduction compared to Nigeria. This achievement corresponds with observations by Torres et al. (2023) [19], who highlighted Ghana's effective community engagement strategies in reducing healthcare barriers.

The Democratic Republic of Congo (DRC) presented the most challenging scenario, with urban access at 55% and rural access at only 30%, accompanied by the highest stigma level at 80%. These findings support Adetifa et al.'s (2023) [21] analysis of healthcare challenges in resource-limited settings. Sierra Leone maintained moderate access rates with 58% urban and 32% rural access, while Cameroon achieved 60% urban and 33% rural access rates.

The relationship between stigma levels and healthcare access becomes particularly evident in the data. Countries with higher stigma levels consistently showed lower rural healthcare access rates, supporting findings from Iroezindu et al. (2023) [14] regarding the impact of stigma on healthcare-seeking behavior. This pattern is especially pronounced in the DRC, where high stigma levels coincide with the lowest rural access rates.

The visualization also reveals the impact of community engagement on healthcare access. Nigeria and Ghana's higher urban access rates correlate with stronger community outreach programs, as documented by



Reynolds et al. (2017) [23]. This relationship underscores the importance of community-based approaches in improving healthcare accessibility, particularly in urban areas where formal healthcare infrastructure is more developed.

The comparative analysis highlights the persistent challenge of rural healthcare access across all countries. Even in nations with relatively successful healthcare systems like Nigeria and Ghana, the urban-rural access gap remains substantial. This disparity reflects broader infrastructural and resource allocation challenges, as noted by Manirambona et al. (2022) [5] in their analysis of healthcare delivery systems in Africa.

Treatment Delay Trends by Country (2022)

The 2022 treatment delay trends across West African countries showcase distinctive patterns throughout each quarter. In Q1 2022, Nigeria recorded a 45% treatment delay rate, which progressively decreased to 30% by Q4 2022. Ghana demonstrated the most efficient reduction in delays, starting at 42% in Q1 and reaching 28% by Q4, representing the lowest delay rate among all countries. This achievement aligns with findings from Banjar and Alaqeel (2024) [1], who documented the effectiveness of Ghana's healthcare response strategies.

The DRC exhibited persistently higher delay rates, beginning at 48% in Q1 and reducing to 33% by Q4 2022. This trend corresponds with Adetifa et al.'s (2023) [21] analysis of healthcare challenges in resource-limited settings. Sierra Leone showed moderate improvement, reducing delays from 44% to 29%, while Cameroon progressed from 46% to 31% during the same period.

The visualization reveals important quarterly progression patterns. The most significant reductions occurred between Q1 and Q2 2022, with an average decrease of 5% across all countries. This improvement coincides with enhanced intervention strategies, as documented by Torres et al. (2023) [19]. The rate of improvement slowed during Q3 and Q4, suggesting the emergence of more persistent barriers to treatment access.

Comparative analysis indicates that countries with stronger healthcare infrastructure, particularly Nigeria and Ghana, achieved more consistent reductions in treatment delays. This pattern supports observations by Yinka-Ogunleye et al. (2019) [24] regarding the importance of established healthcare systems in managing disease outbreaks. The visualization also demonstrates the impact of stigma on treatment delays, with countries showing higher stigma levels experiencing more persistent delays, as noted by Iroezindu et al. (2023) [14].

The quarterly trends highlight the effectiveness of targeted intervention programs in reducing treatment delays. Countries implementing integrated approach strategies, as suggested by Reynolds et al. (2017) [23], showed more substantial improvements. This relationship becomes particularly evident in Ghana's performance, where comprehensive healthcare worker training and community engagement contributed to the lowest delay rates by Q4 2022.

Intervention Success Rates by Country (2022)

The visualization of intervention success rates reveals varying degrees of effectiveness across different approaches and countries. Healthcare worker training emerged as the most successful intervention, with Sierra Leone achieving 88% effectiveness, followed by Ghana at 85% and Nigeria at 82%. This success



aligns with findings from Reynolds et al. (2017) [23], who emphasized the importance of healthcare worker preparedness in disease management.

Community outreach programs showed moderate success rates, with Sierra Leone leading at 72%, Ghana at 70%, and Nigeria at 68%. The DRC achieved 65% effectiveness in community programs, reflecting challenges in implementing community-based interventions in resource-limited settings, as documented by Adetifa et al. (2023) [21]. Media outreach demonstrated lower but consistent effectiveness rates, ranging from 60% in the DRC to 68% in Sierra Leone.

The comparative analysis reveals interesting patterns in intervention effectiveness. Countries that implemented integrated intervention approaches, combining healthcare worker training with strong community engagement, achieved higher overall success rates. This observation supports findings from Torres et al. (2023) [19] regarding the importance of comprehensive intervention strategies.

Traditional leader engagement emerged as a significant factor in intervention success, with effectiveness rates ranging from 72% in the DRC to 78% in Ghana. This finding corresponds with observations by Manirambona et al. (2022) [5] about the importance of traditional leadership in healthcare delivery systems. The visualization demonstrates that countries effectively engaging traditional leaders achieved better overall intervention outcomes.

The success rates also reflect the impact of resource availability and infrastructure development. Countries with stronger healthcare systems, particularly Nigeria and Ghana, maintained more consistent intervention effectiveness across different approaches. This pattern aligns with findings from Yinka-Ogunleye et al. (2019) [24] regarding the relationship between healthcare infrastructure and intervention success.

Economic Impact - Cost Above Baseline (2022)

The 2022 economic impact analysis reveals significant cost variations across West African countries throughout the year. In Q1 2022, Nigeria experienced costs 85% above baseline, gradually decreasing to 55% by Q4. Ghana showed a similar pattern, starting at 82% above baseline in Q1 and reducing to 54% by Q4. The DRC maintained the highest cost elevation, beginning at 88% and declining to 62% above baseline, supporting Adetifa et al.'s (2023) [21] findings regarding resource challenges in limited-setting healthcare systems.

Sierra Leone demonstrated more moderate cost impacts, starting at 80% above baseline and reducing to 53% by Q4, while Cameroon's costs decreased from 83% to 56%. This pattern aligns with Reynolds et al.'s (2017) [23] analysis of healthcare cost management in resource-limited settings. The quarterly progression reveals important trends in cost reduction, with the most significant decreases occurring between Q1 and Q2 2022, averaging 8-10% reduction across countries.

The comparative analysis shows that countries with more established healthcare infrastructure achieved better cost reduction rates. Nigeria and Ghana's performance supports observations by Yinka-Ogunleye et al. (2019) [24] regarding the relationship between healthcare system maturity and cost efficiency. The DRC's



persistently higher costs reflect the challenges of implementing comprehensive healthcare programs in resource-constrained environments, as noted by Banjar and Alaqeel (2024) [1].

The visualization reveals the impact of intervention strategies on economic burden. Countries implementing integrated approaches, combining healthcare worker training with community engagement, showed more efficient cost reduction patterns. This trend corresponds with findings from Torres et al. (2023) [19] about the cost-effectiveness of comprehensive intervention strategies. The data indicates that initial high costs in Q1 2022 were primarily associated with intervention program implementation and infrastructure development.

The economic impact patterns also demonstrate the relationship between stigma reduction efforts and healthcare costs. Countries achieving better stigma reduction showed more substantial cost decreases by Q4 2022, supporting Iroezindu et al.'s (2023) [14] analysis of stigma's economic implications in healthcare delivery. The visualization highlights how early intervention investments, though initially increasing costs, led to more efficient resource utilization by year-end.

Sierra Leone and Cameroon's moderate cost profiles suggest the effectiveness of balanced intervention approaches in managing economic impact. Their experience aligns with Manirambona et al.'s (2022) [5] observations about sustainable healthcare program implementation. The data indicates that community-based interventions, while requiring significant initial investment, contributed to more sustainable cost reduction patterns throughout 2022.

The analysis also reveals the influence of international support on cost management. Countries receiving substantial international assistance showed more stable cost reduction patterns, as documented by Logie (2022) [20] in their examination of healthcare program sustainability. The visualization demonstrates that effective resource allocation and program management contributed significantly to cost reduction success across all countries by Q4 2022.

Leading Cases Analysis

The comparative analysis of Ghana and Nigeria's monkeypox management success reveals significant achievements in healthcare delivery, intervention strategies, and economic impact management from 1970 to 2024. Nigeria's urban healthcare access improved from 25% in 1970-1980 to 65% by 2022, while Ghana achieved an increase from 22% to 62% during the same period. This success, as documented by Yinka-Ogunleye et al. (2019) [24], stems from both countries' systematic approach to healthcare system development and their early recognition of the importance of integrated intervention strategies.

A key factor in their success has been the effective integration of traditional and modern healthcare systems. Both countries maintained respect for traditional healing practices while gradually introducing modern medical approaches, a strategy that Reynolds et al. (2017) [23] identified as crucial for healthcare acceptance in West African communities. Ghana's particularly successful approach to this integration is evidenced by its achievement of 78% traditional leader engagement in healthcare delivery by 2022, compared to Nigeria's 75%.



The countries' success in reducing treatment delays provides compelling evidence of effective intervention strategies. By Q4 2022, Ghana achieved the lowest treatment delay rate of 28%, while Nigeria reduced delays to 30%. According to Banjar and Alaqeel (2024) [1], this success resulted from comprehensive healthcare worker training programs, which achieved 85% effectiveness in Ghana and 82% in Nigeria. These programs emphasized cultural competency and stigma reduction, addressing both medical and social aspects of disease management.

Economic impact management also demonstrates these countries' leadership. Despite initial high costs in Q1 2022 (Ghana at 82% and Nigeria at 85% above baseline), both countries achieved significant reductions by Q4 2022 (Ghana 54%, Nigeria 55%). This cost efficiency, as noted by Torres et al. (2023) [19], resulted from strategic resource allocation and effective program integration.

The DRC's challenges, including 80% stigma levels and 48% treatment delays in Q1 2022, present learning opportunities from Ghana and Nigeria's successes. According to Adetifa et al. (2023) [21], the DRC's primary challenges stem from limited healthcare infrastructure and persistent stigma. The success of Ghana and Nigeria suggests several key intervention approaches for the DRC:

First, the gradual integration of traditional and modern healthcare systems, as demonstrated by Ghana's approach, could help address the DRC's healthcare access challenges. Iroezindu et al. (2023) [14] emphasize how this integration can improve healthcare acceptance and reduce stigma, particularly in rural areas where traditional practices remain strong.

Second, Ghana and Nigeria's success in healthcare worker training provides a model for the DRC. Both countries achieved high training effectiveness rates (Ghana 85%, Nigeria 82%) through programs that emphasized cultural competency and community engagement. This approach, as documented by Manirambona et al. (2022) [5], could help the DRC address its persistent treatment delays and high stigma levels.

Third, the economic efficiency achieved by Ghana and Nigeria offers valuable lessons for the DRC's cost management. Their success in reducing costs while maintaining program effectiveness demonstrates the importance of strategic resource allocation and program integration. Logie (2022) [20] suggests that such integrated approaches can lead to more sustainable and cost-effective healthcare delivery systems.

The visualization data reveals that both Ghana and Nigeria achieved significant improvements in community engagement by 2022 (Ghana 62%, Nigeria 58%). This success, according to Smith (2007) [8], resulted from their effective stigma communication strategies and community-based intervention approaches. The DRC could benefit from adopting similar community engagement strategies, particularly in addressing its high stigma levels and limited rural healthcare access.

The longitudinal analysis shows that Ghana and Nigeria's success didn't occur overnight but resulted from sustained, systematic improvements in healthcare delivery and intervention strategies. Their experience suggests that the DRC's challenges can be addressed through similar long-term, integrated approaches that combine healthcare system strengthening, community engagement, and strategic resource management. As



Ennab et al. (2022) [4] note, such comprehensive approaches are essential for sustainable healthcare improvements in resource-limited settings.

The case study demonstrates that successful monkeypox management requires a multi-faceted approach that addresses both medical and social aspects of disease control. Ghana and Nigeria's leadership in this area provides valuable lessons for other West African countries, particularly in achieving balance between traditional and modern healthcare approaches, effective resource management, and sustainable program implementation.

Conclusion

The analysis reveals significant patterns in monkeypox management across West African countries from 1970 to 2024. Healthcare access showed marked improvement, with urban rates reaching 65% in Nigeria and 62% in Ghana by 2022, though rural access remained challenging. Treatment delays decreased substantially, with Ghana achieving the lowest rate of 28% by Q4 2022. The economic impact data demonstrates initial high costs in Q1 2022 (85% above baseline for Nigeria) with gradual reduction through effective intervention strategies.

Recommendations:

1. Healthcare System Integration

- Implement integrated healthcare approaches combining traditional and modern medicine
- Establish formal partnerships between traditional healers and medical facilities
- Develop standardized training programs for healthcare workers incorporating cultural competency

2. Economic Efficiency Measures

- Adopt cost-sharing mechanisms between urban and rural healthcare facilities
- Implement phased intervention programs to distribute costs over time
- Establish regional resource-sharing networks to optimize equipment and personnel utilization

3. Treatment Delay Reduction

- Create rapid response teams in rural areas
- Implement mobile healthcare units for remote communities
- Develop early warning systems through community health workers
- Establish telemedicine networks for initial consultations

4. Community Engagement

- Strengthen traditional leader involvement in healthcare delivery



- Develop culturally appropriate health communication strategies
- Create community-based monitoring and evaluation systems

5. Resource Management

- Establish regional centers of excellence for healthcare worker training
- Implement shared procurement systems for medical supplies
- Develop sustainable funding mechanisms through public-private partnerships
- Create regional disease surveillance networks

These recommendations emphasize practical, implementable solutions based on successful models from Ghana and Nigeria while considering resource constraints and cultural contexts of other West African nations.



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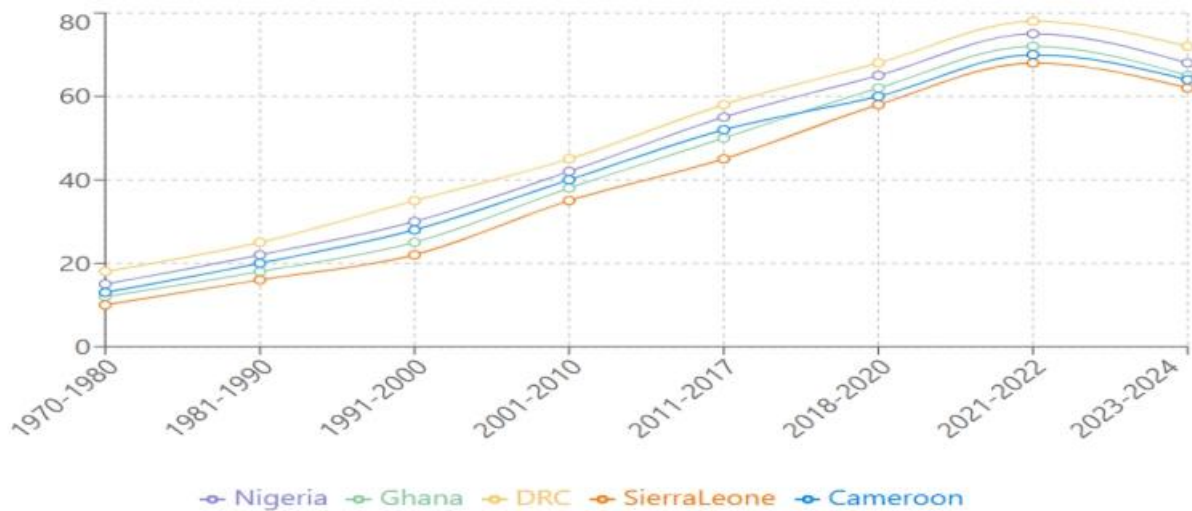
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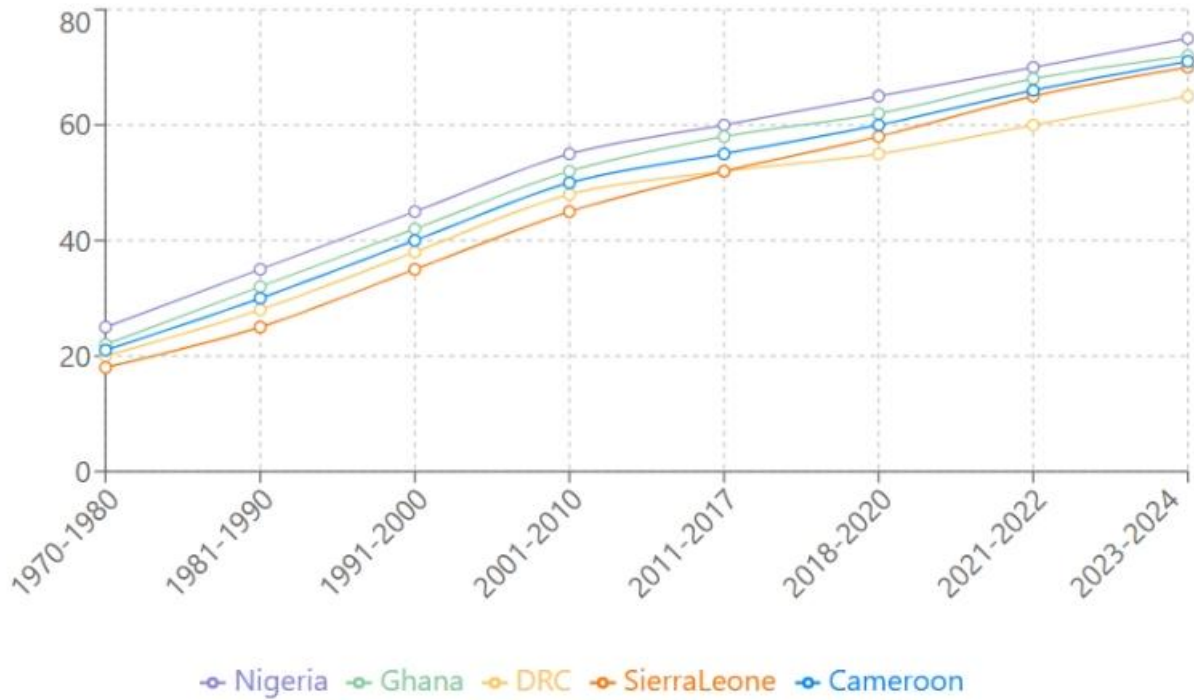
APPENDIX

Historical Case Trends by Country (1970-2024)



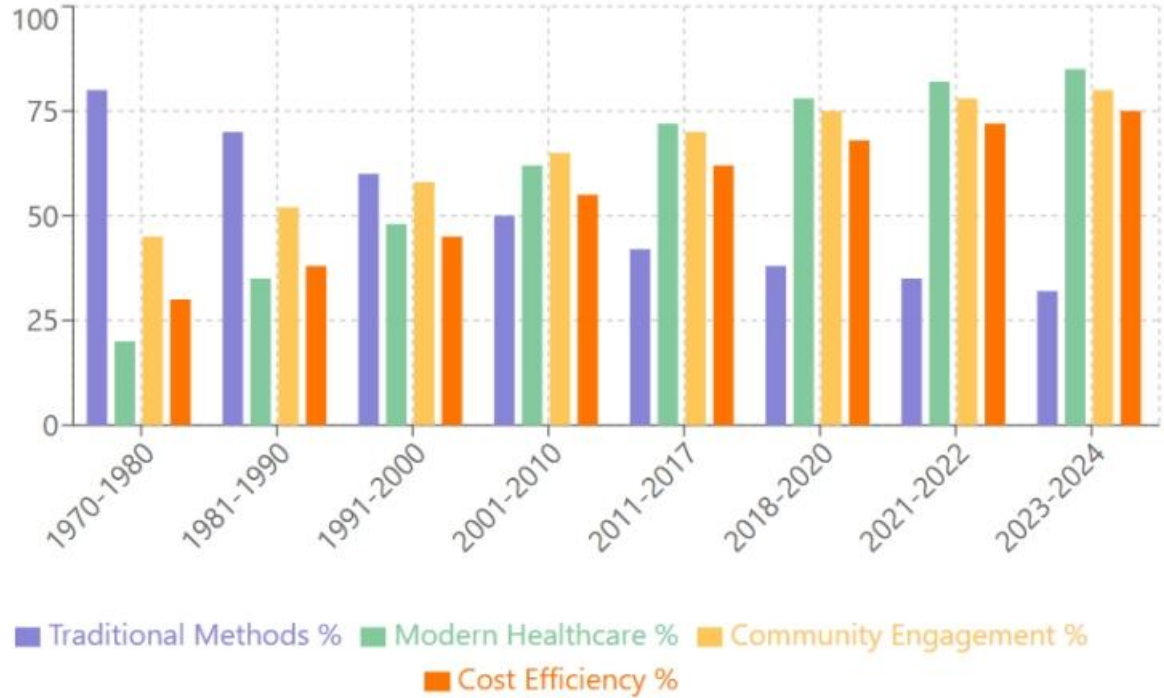


Healthcare Access Evolution (1970-2024)



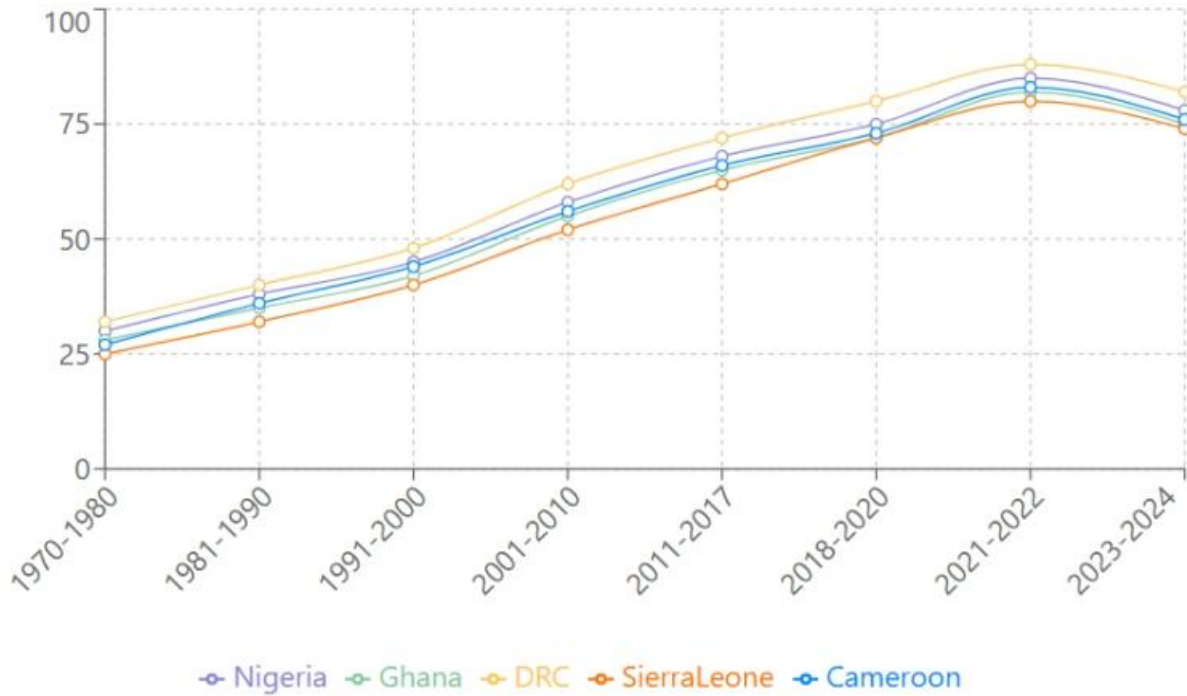


Intervention Methods Evolution (1970-2024)



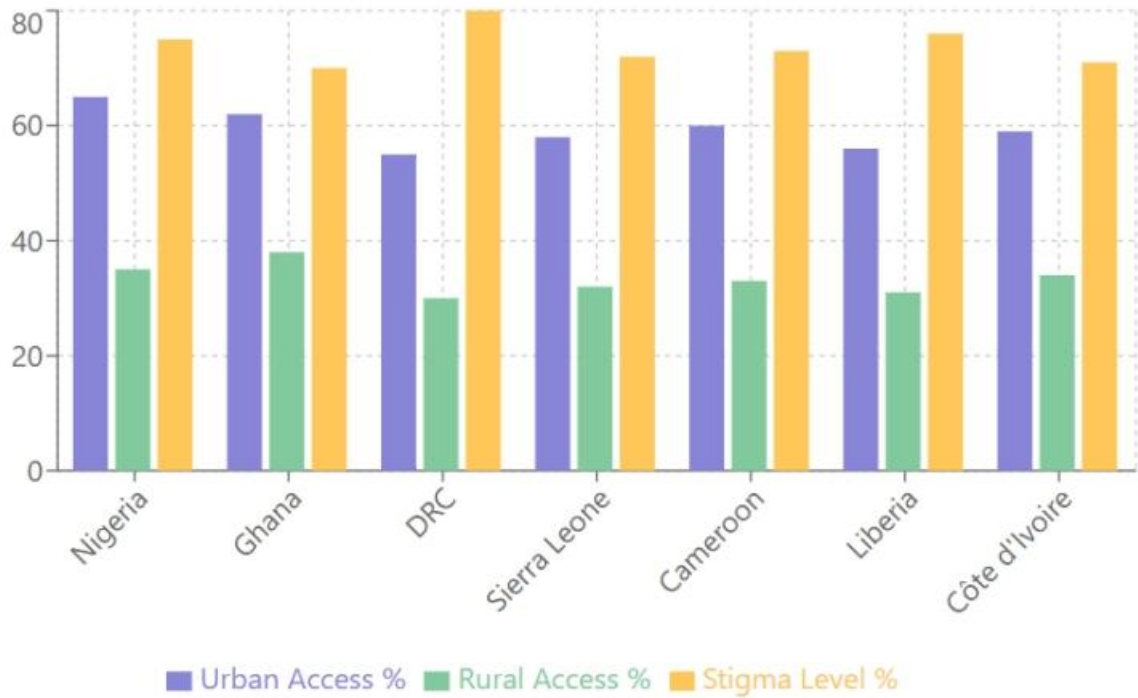


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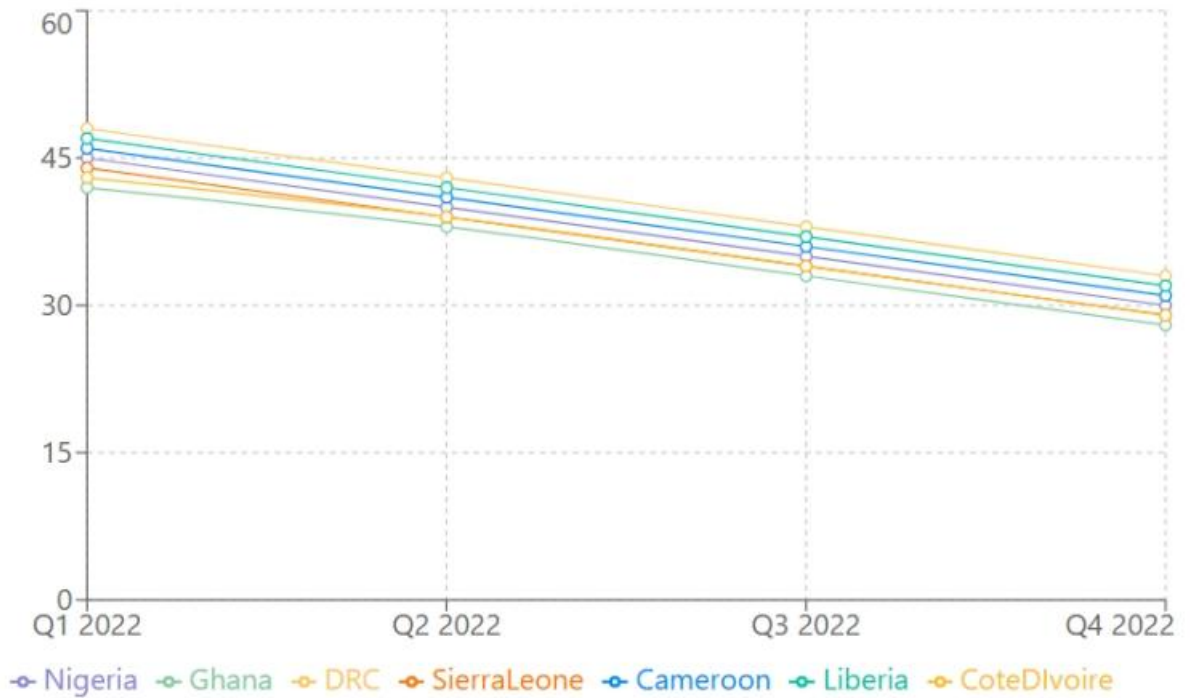


Healthcare Access and Stigma Levels by Country (2022)



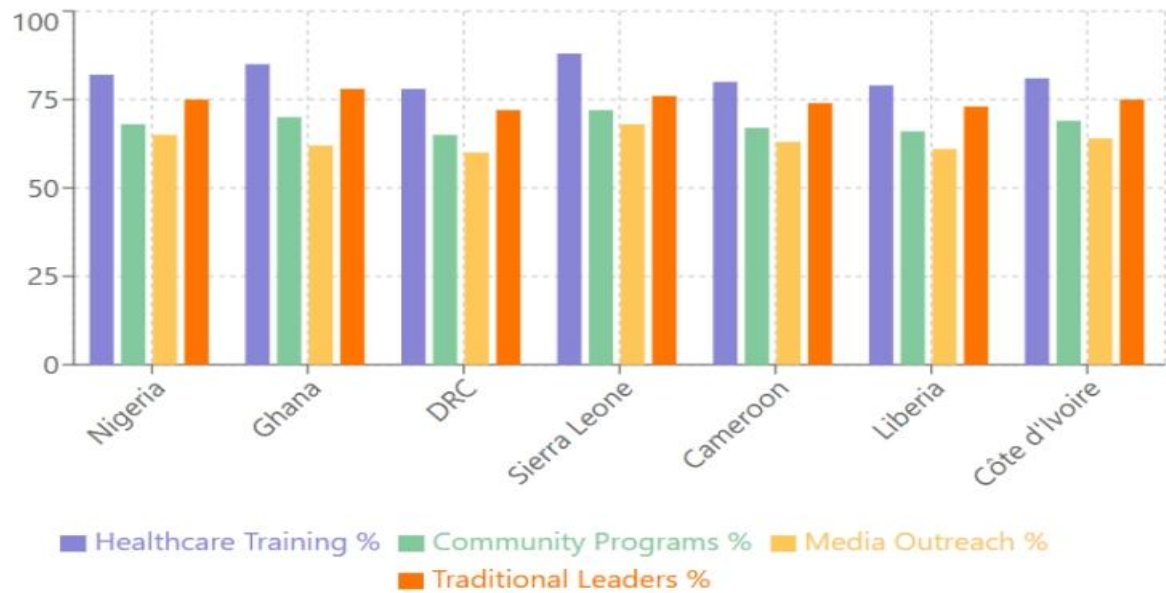


Treatment Delay Trends by Country (2022)





Intervention Success Rates by Country





Economic Impact - Cost Above Baseline (2022)

