



WEB RELEASE

Determinants of Fistula Risk among Young Women in Nigeria: Are Interventions Reaching the Most Vulnerable?

Metrics for Management awarded Kingsley Ogunne of Obafemi Awolowo University the Gwatkin Equity Catalyst Award, recognizing his plans to use the EquityTool to help address Nigeria's high fistula rates. Obstetric fistula, a devastating condition often caused by prolonged and obstructed labor without access to timely emergency obstetric care, has profound physical and social consequences for survivors, particularly young Nigerian women facing significant socioeconomic and cultural barriers.

The awarded study employs a mixed-method approach to explore fistula risk factors, assess intervention coverage, and provide policy insights. Using data from the 2023-2024 Nigeria Demographic and Health Survey, independent surveys with fistula survivors, and in-depth interviews with healthcare providers and policymakers, the study aims to measure wealth equity to understand how socioeconomic status influences access to quality maternal healthcare.

By using the [EquityTool](#) – a simple and easy-to-use tool to measure relative wealth – the study aims to generate evidence on the wealth distribution among fistula patients, identify those underserved by current interventions, and assess the effectiveness of Nigeria's Strategic Plans for fistula elimination. These insights will be shared with key stakeholders as the country prepares its next Strategic Plan. Ultimately, this study aims to guide targeted, wealth-sensitive strategies that will ensure equitable access to preventive and treatment services for obstetric fistula, improving outcomes for Nigeria's most vulnerable women.

Learn more about the [Gwatkin Equity Catalyst Award](#).

ABOUT M4M

At [Metrics for Management](#) (M4M), we provide rigorous, evidence-based information that drives positive health outcomes globally. We aim to bridge the gap between data abundance and data relevance by delivering actionable insights that empower decision-makers in the field of global health.

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