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**Factors that Influence
Household Access to Healthcare
Services in Eldoret Municipality,
Kenya**

INTRODUCTION

- Access to healthcare debate continues unabated globally.
- Issues in healthcare are salient not only because they touch us individually in important respects but because it expose many of the political, economic, social and ethical dilemmas of our time.

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- As debate rages on, one point of consensus remains that differences in access to healthcare can have far-reaching consequences.
 - Empirical evidence shows that there are factors that influence access to healthcare services.
 - This study is intended to determine the factors that influence households access to healthcare services in Eldoret municipality.

PROBLEM STATEMENT

- Despite many decades of public and private initiatives, a significant number of people in Eldoret municipality do not have a satisfactory standard of access to healthcare.
- In spite of efforts to increase access through expansion of health services, households are still experiencing a persistent limited access to care.
- It is therefore necessary to undertake a study on the factors that influence household access to healthcare services in Eldoret municipality, Kenya.

OBJECTIVES OF THE STUDY

➤ General Objective

The general objective of this study was to assess the factors that influence household access to healthcare services in Eldoret Municipality, Kenya.

Specific Objectives

- To examine the socio-economic factors that influence household access to healthcare services in Eldoret Municipality.
- To assess the influence of health insurance on household access to healthcare services in Eldoret Municipality.
- To establish the influence of facility referral system that household access to healthcare services in Eldoret Municipality.

Literature Review

- It is clear that scholars from various fields have addressed the issue of healthcare access from different perspectives. Specific models have been developed to explain the phenomenon of access, notably by Andersen.
- It is evident from the reviewed literature that access to healthcare entails both opportunity to use and the physical accessibility to care. Rather than just physical attributes such as distance, there are also such barriers from finance, sexual orientation, culture and language.
- Healthcare is a basic human right and need not be mere pipe dream for households.

Theoretical Framework

Health Belief Model (HBM).

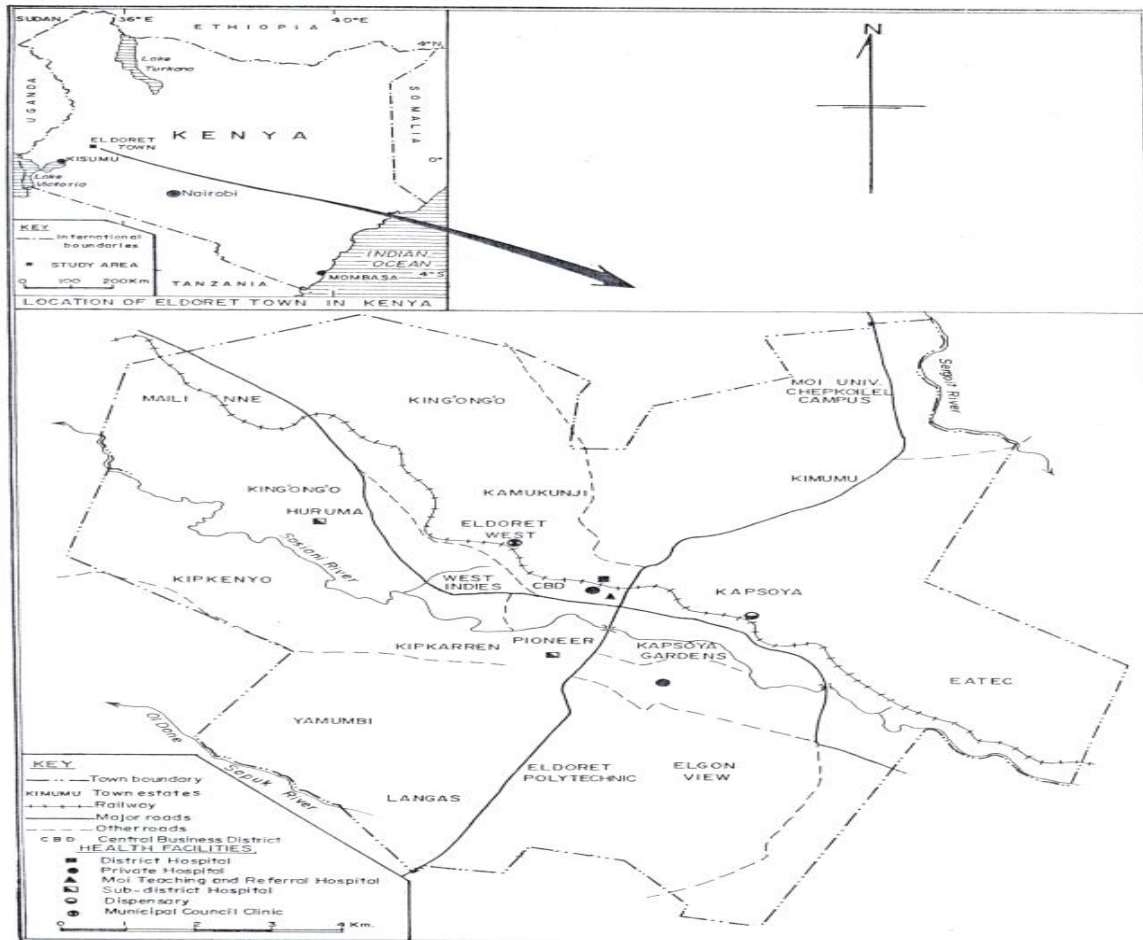
- Originally developed to explain why people failed to utilize health services by Hochbaum and Irwin Rosenstock.
- Central tenets of HBM are that individuals will not adopt health behaviours, unless they believe they are susceptible to a disease or disorder, they believe it is serious, they accept that the recommended preventive actions will be effective and that the benefits accruing from their actions will outweigh any costs or disadvantages that they believe that they will incur as a result.

CHAPTER THREE: METHODOLOGY

The Study Area

- The study area is Eldoret Municipality, the capital and administrative centre of Uasin Gishu District in the North Rift, Rift Valley Province, in western part of Kenya. It is made up of agrarian and industrial economy.

MAP OF ELDORET MUNICIPALITY



DISTRIBUTION OF HEALTH FACILITIES IN ELDORET TOWN

- **Design:** The study was mainly be quantitative taking the form of a sample survey.
- **Unit of Analysis:** will constitute heads of households in selected estates within Eldoret municipality.
- **Sampling:** Stratified sampling of the estates will be done to achieve distribution across geographical location and income level. Heads of the households will be selected through a simple random sampling procedure.

- The healthcare facilities were purposely selected to obtain two government hospitals, two private hospitals, two health centers, and two dispensaries.
- Purposive and convenience sampling procedure was applied to obtain five household heads from each facility.

Data Collection

- Data was derived from both primary and secondary sources.
- Primary data will be created using a pre-tested interview schedule.
- Secondary data will be obtained by archival research.

Data Analysis


- The study used the SPSS program as a tool for data analysis.
- Frequencies and percentages were computed.
- Tables were generated
- Descriptive statistics i.e. mode, mean and mode will be computed to show the central tendency.
- Standard deviation will be computed to determine the validity of the mean
- Besides tables, other data presentation techniques include bar graphs

Results

- There is a positive and significant relationship between household income and access to healthcare services
- The statistical analyses for place of residence and access to healthcare services suggest that the relationship is positive
- The relationship between health insurance and access to public, private or self-care was found to be positive and significant.
- Majority of the referrals were from the private sector to public sector.


Discussion

- Disparities in access to healthcare are more accentuated by poor economic status (Dorling & Simpson, 1999; Dina and Law, 1998; MOH, 1997; Detels et al., 2004).
- Health plans reduces out of pocket payments for healthcare therefore increasing access.

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- Insurance also promotes equity in use of healthcare services, because the sick benefit from insurance premiums contributed by households who do not get sick (Mwabu et al., 2004).
 - The fact that formal referral is a determinant of household access to healthcare, as a result of perceived quality of healthcare is in line with HBM (Hochbaum, 1958; Rosentock, 1966).

Conclusions and Recommendations

- The study identified a number of socio-economic factors that influence the use of healthcare services in Eldoret.
- Health insurance continues to be a determinant of the likelihood of using healthcare as it increases access.
- Formal referral in Eldoret contributes to access to healthcare for the households.

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- It is concluded that various measures and interventions related to household needs would play a significant role in addressing access disadvantage and inequality.
 - Further research is needed to delineate which health insurance design and implementation characteristics allow better access of households to healthcare services.

REFERENCES

- Acknowledges works of various sources, scholars and organizations as source of literature review for the study.



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