

**Assessing the Effectiveness of Medical Equipment
Procurement on Healthcare Service Delivery in St. Vincent and the
Grenadines**

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Submitted to the Faculty of Department of International Affairs in partial
fulfillment of the requirements for the degree of Bachelor of Arts in International
Affairs

Wenzao Ursuline University of Languages 2025

WENZAO URSULINE UNIVERSITY OF LANGUAGES

DEPARTMENT OF INTERNATIONAL AFFAIRS

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November 16, 2024

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2025

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Abstract

This study examines the effectiveness of medical equipment procurement on healthcare service delivery in St. Vincent and the Grenadines, focusing on the impact of procurement processes, local challenges, and the role of technology. A qualitative approach was used, involving semi-structured interviews with key stakeholders such as healthcare providers, procurement officials, vendors and policymakers. The findings reveal that while structured vendor evaluations and collaborative decision-making improve procurement outcomes, inefficiencies such as delayed funding, regulatory gaps, and fragmented communication hinder overall effectiveness. Additionally, the limited adoption of technology and inadequate technical expertise exacerbate procurement challenges. Recommendations include streamlining procurement processes, strengthening regulatory frameworks, fostering public-private partnerships, leveraging digital tools, and implementing robust capacity-building initiatives. These strategies aim to enhance procurement efficiency, improve healthcare outcomes, and address systemic challenges. The study contributes to understanding the critical role of procurement in resource-limited settings and provides actionable insights for policy and operational reforms.

Key Words: Procurement, Healthcare service delivery, efficiency, medical equipment

摘要

這項研究探討了聖文森特和格林納丁斯醫療設備採購對醫療服務提供的有效性，重點分析採購過程的影響、當地挑戰及技術的角色。研究採用質性方法，通過與醫療提供者、採購官員、供應商和政策制定者等關鍵利益相關者進行半結構化訪談。研究結果顯示，儘管結構化的供應商評估和協作決策能改善採購結果，但資金延遲、監管漏洞以及溝通分散等低效問題阻礙了整體效能。此外，技術應用的有限性和技術專業知識的不足進一步加劇了採購挑戰。研究建議包括簡化採購流程、加強監管框架、促進公私合作、利用數位工具以及實施強有力的能力建設措施。這些策略旨在提升採購效率、改善醫療結果並應對系統性挑戰。該研究有助於理解採購在資源有限環境中的關鍵角色，並為政策和運營改革提供了可行的見解。

關鍵詞：採購、醫療服務提供、效率、醫療設備