



## **BUDGET SLACK, FINANCIAL ACCOUNTABILITY AND SERVICE DELIVERY IN PUBLIC HEALTH CENTRES IN JINJA DISTRICT**

### **ABSTRACT**

This study examined the relationship between Budget Slack, financial accountability, and service delivery in the Public health sector in Uganda. This study was prompted by the wide spread discontent among the people for lack of basic health facilities like drugs and equipment despite government. The creation of Public health centres was to improve access and quality of health service delivery.

A quantitative cross sectional survey design was used to collect data from a sample of 53 Health centres in Jinja District. Stratified random sampling techniques were used in selecting the sample. Questionnaire was the main instrument of data collection and the Statistical Package for Social Sciences (SPSS) was used for analysis.

The findings of the study revealed that there is a significant positive relationship between the three variables studied (Budget Slack, Financial Accountability, and Service Delivery).

Furthermore, the findings showed that both Budget Slack and financial accountability were significant predictors of service delivery. However, it was indicated that Budget Slack was the most significant predictor of service delivery as compared to financial accountability. In addition, it was revealed that there were also other predictors of service delivery apart from Budget Slack and financial accountability.

The researcher recommends that the public health centres' management should establish/ strengthen their Budget slacks in order to enhance financial accountability and hence ensure efficient, effective, and equitable service delivery. This can be accomplished through policy implementation, recruiting competent staff, putting in place systems to monitor and evaluate performance, and providing refresher courses to management and staff, among others.