***Ukamaa* and *ujamaa* approaches that strengthen caregiver support systems for epilepsy**

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**Abstract**

Epilepsy is a non-communicable condition that affects both males and females, people from all races, children, and adults, rich and poor. There are an estimated 10 million people with epilepsy in Africa. Epilepsy can result in numerous social challenges for people with the condition, their families and community. The medication gap and specialist access gap are huge because of financial resources required to buy medicines, consult doctors including specialists and transport. In this article, authors examined the role played by family and community support systems in lessening the burden of epilepsy. The research was undergirded by Ubuntu research approach (URA) in terms of philosophy, ethics, and techniques. We utilized a side-by-side approach or collaborative research with a community-based organisation, where we worked together to identify the problem, design methods, collect, analyse, and report data. Data were collected through personal narratives of 16 people with epilepsy and a community *indaba* that was attended by 18 people. Data were co-analysed, and themes identified: resilience, community potential health philosophies conflict and concept of responsible government. We concluded that where families and communities’ potential end, government has not taken over more adequately. The implications are, there is inadequate support to families and communities, and this can only change if the current policy is improved or a new policy on non-communicable conditions.

**Key terms**: Africa, epilepsy, experiences, non-communicable, prevalence, stigma, treatment

*Type of article: Put type here*

*Type of review: Double-blind*

# **Introduction**

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# **Background**

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# **Literature**

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**Literature included**

*Table 1: Articles included in the review*

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| Article number | Author, (year,) title  | Source | Year published | Key data  |
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# **Methodology**

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# **Results (or Findings)**

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As social work educators and administrators, we must continue incorporating diverse perspectives and contributions to enrich the curriculum, making it more engaging and relevant for all students.Teaching about Black social work pioneers helps acknowledge and address systemic inequities within the profession and society. It encourages critical thinking and a commitment to dismantling these inequities.Black social work pioneers have significantly contributed to developing anti-oppressive social work practices, which aim to address and dismantle systemic inequalities and injustices marginalized communities face (Participant 2 or put their False name).

# **Discussion**

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# **Implications (or Recommendations)**

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# **Implications**

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*Figure 1: Family-Community-State model for epilepsy care*

**Recommendations**

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# **Conclusion**

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