

## **Cloud-Based Hospital Information Systems (HIS) and Their Role in Transforming Healthcare Delivery in Benin: Comparative Insights from Other African Countries**

### **1. Research Method(s) Suitable for the Project**

Based on this week's readings and the nature of the topic, the most suitable research methodology would be a qualitative research approach, specifically:

- Systematic Literature Review
- Comparative Case Study Method

A qualitative approach is appropriate because the research aims to understand processes, adoption experiences, implementation challenges, and contextual factors affecting cloud-based HIS in developing healthcare systems.

A systematic literature review supports the synthesis of academic studies to identify patterns, knowledge gaps, and established frameworks. In contrast, a comparative case study method allows analysis of outcomes in Benin relative to countries like Rwanda and Kenya, where health digitalisation initiatives are more advanced.

### **2. Data Collection Methods to Be Used**

Since this project is based on secondary research, the primary data collection methods will include:

- Documentary Analysis of peer-reviewed journals, government reports, WHO publications, and policy documents.
- Database Research using platforms such as Scopus, PubMed, Google Scholar, IEEE Xplore, and ScienceDirect.
- Thematic Coding and Categorisation of extracted literature to support analysis.

If later development makes primary data feasible, additional optional methods could include:

- Semi-structured interviews with health IT experts or policymakers in Benin (if ethically permissible).
- Analysis of implementation frameworks used in Rwanda, Kenya, and Ghana.

However, for the scope of the literature review and proposal phase, secondary data collection is sufficient and appropriate.

### **3. Skills Required for the Project**

To complete this research effectively, several academic and technical skills will be required:

- Academic research and critical analysis
- Search strategy and database navigation
- Understanding of cloud computing and HIS concepts
- Comparative analysis and synthesis
- Harvard referencing and citation management
- Understanding theoretical frameworks (TAM, HOT-fit, IS Success Model)

## **Summary**

In summary, the project will adopt a qualitative methodology, using a systematic literature review and a comparative case study design, supported by structured thematic data analysis. Secondary data collection will be the primary method, with the potential to integrate expert perspectives later if scope and ethics permit.