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The association between the housing structure and continued breastfeeding in two Southern African Countries.

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Where and why are 10 million children dying every year?

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Introduction

The problem: Childhood Malnutrition – 45% of deaths in LMIC¹
 Causes multifaceted - Diets²

Interventions: Prolonged BF associated with lower childhood mortality (SSA)³
 Additional: WHO recommends BF for 2yr & beyond⁴

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Introduction

In South Africa (SA) only 13% are BF at 2 years (80% initiated 1st day)¹
 Studies – individual characteristics (age, mothers edu) and community²
 In Kenya (LMIC), one room for sleeping = not conducive to BF³
 In USA (HIC) crowding associated with better BF rates⁴
 Data lacking on built environment & BF in SA

Aim – study the association between breastfeeding (BF) duration and built environment in SA & Zimbabwe (ZIM)

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Methods

- Data from Demographic and Health Survey (DHS)
- DHS – Data for more than 90 countries
- Data between 1999 & 2016
- Validated tools and standardised data
- R (R Core Team 2022) and SPSS v28 (IBM 2021)

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Methods

- Breastfeeding duration in months
- Normality – stem, leaf plot, and Shapiro-wilk test

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