



The landscape of healthcare service provision, with a focus on maternal and newborn health in Grand Conakry, Guinea: Results from a healthcare facility census in July 2025

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Rapidly urbanising complex ecosystems, such as “Grand Conakry” in Guinea, present several understudied challenges to the organisation, availability, and accessibility of healthcare services. This study describes the availability and distribution of health facilities offering services, with a focus on maternal health services across the seven health districts of Grand Conakry, using data from a census of health facilities (June 2025). The census built on existing lists of 460 facilities in Grand Conakry, and snowball sampling was used to identify facilities that were not initially on the list. We collected information on basic facility characteristics and GPS coordinates. A total of 796 health facilities exist in Grand Conakry, with 564 facilities that were not on the initial lists. 105 were either closed, out of service or refused to participate, thus, 691 health facilities agreed to complete our survey. The private sector dominated the landscape and was mainly concentrated in the Ratoma and Matoto health districts and most facilities (63%) were not reporting to the national health information system. 332 facilities declared providing childbirth care, and 132 of those (40%) offered caesarean section while 87 (26%) offered blood transfusions. Finally, healthcare landscape was drawn up using the GPS coordinates collected, based on the boundaries of the seven including health districts. Despite the high apparent availability, significant and persistent disparities were observed in a health provision and coordination, between the public and private sectors. This highlights the need to strengthen urban health planning, and public-private collaboration regarding ongoing rapid urbanisation in Grand Conakry.

