

Table 1 Study variables and definitions

Variable	Definition	
Level of implementation of the HEARTS initiative	Module H: healthy lifestyle counselling	Advice and recommendations on diet, physical activity, tobacco and alcohol from health care professionals to promote healthy lifestyles and prevent CVDs.
	Module E: evidence-based protocols	Management of patients according to national protocols for hypertension and type 2 diabetes.
	Module A: access to essential medicines and technologies	Availability of medicines and essential technologies (8): Medicines: thiazide or thiazide-like diuretic, long-acting calcium (amlodipine), long-acting angiotensin-converting enzyme inhibitor (ACE-I), angiotensin receptor blocker (ARB), statin, insulin, metformin, glibenclamide, beta-blocker, aspirin. Technologies: stethoscope, measuring tape, weighing scale, equipment and supplies for measuring urine albumin and ketones, blood pressure measurement device, equipment and supplies for measuring blood glucose and cholesterol.
	Module R: risk-based cardiovascular management	Cardiovascular risk stratification of patients according to national guidelines
	Module T: team-based care	Distribution of tasks and collaboration among health centre personnel
	Module S: systems for monitoring	Use of the HEARTS information system
Factors influencing implementation	Factors affecting implementation of the HEARTS initiative	