



Engaging Muslim Americans for Research on Community Health: Lessons Learned from a Patient-Centered Outcomes Research Capacity-Building Program



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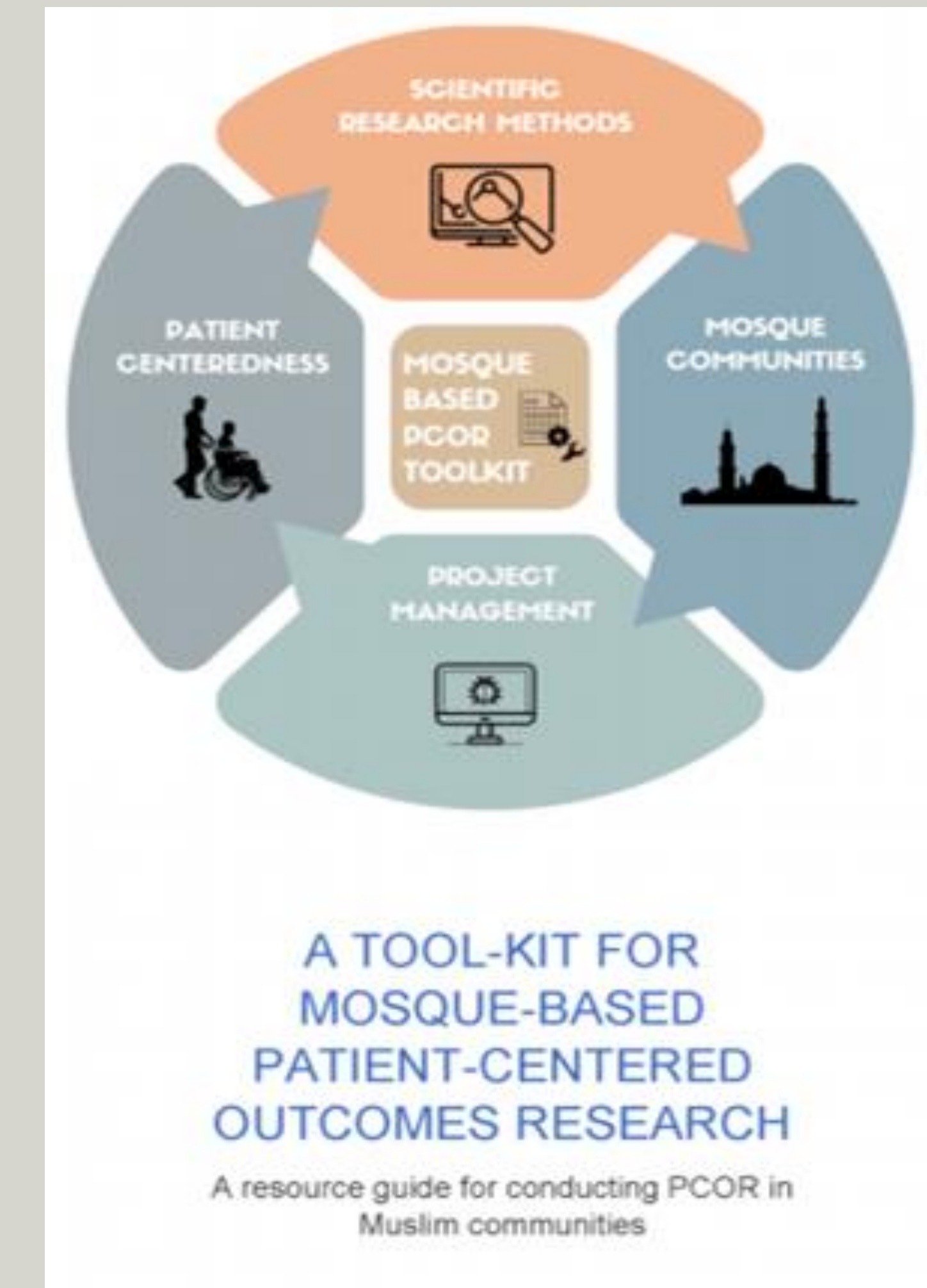
Background

- Muslim Americans ~3-5 million persons → ~10 million by 2050
- Predominantly comprised of African, Arab, and S. Asian communities
- Share religious beliefs, values & identity → Similar health behaviors and challenges
- Religious identity overlooked in health & healthcare disparity tracking & research
- Muslim community leaders have few opportunities to participate in, and shape, community health research

Objectives

- Design a capacity-building program that equips Muslim community leaders with the knowledge, tools, and networks for mosque-based health disparity research
- Increase Knowledge + Tools → CBPR+ PCOR + SDH + Muslim dimensions of health behaviors
- Increase Behavioral Intent for research

Name	State	Stakeholder Group	Health Leadership Project Title
Heba Abolaban	Mass	Clinician	Increasing Breast Cancer Screening Rates Among Foreign-Born American Muslim Women in South Bay Area, California
Sameera Ahmed	Michigan	Social Services	Positive Youth Development: A Pilot Intervention with American Muslims
Yasser Aman	California	Community Health	Lessons Learned and Moving Forward with Mosque-Based PCOR
Mohammad Aref	Indiana	Clinician	Studying Religion Associated Disparities in the Mental Health of American Muslims
Alia Azmat	Indiana	PhD Student/Social Services	The Burden of Sexual Violence and Sexual Dysfunction in Muslim Communities
Mona Elgohail	Pennsylvania	PhD Student/Clinician	An Innovative, Internet-Based Treatment to Reduce Depressive Symptoms in Muslim Women Experiencing Infertility: Preliminary Results and Next Steps
Amal Killawi	New Jersey	PhD Student/Social Services	Exploring the Experiences of Muslim American Women with Sexual Health Issues
Angelica Lindsey-Ali	Arizona	Social Services	Developing an Islamically-Centered Sexual Health Curriculum for Black Muslim Women
Nasir Malim	New York	Clinician	Islamic Bioethical Perspectives on Gender Identities for Intersex Patients
Fatema Mirza	Illinois	Community Health	Mosque-Based PCOR: Identifying gaps and discovering best practices to conducting patient-centered research on mosque communities
Sharif Mohamed	Minnesota	Imam	The Impact of a Pre-CPE Training Program for Muslim Faith Leaders Upon Minnesota Healthcare Systems
Samaiya Mushtaq	Texas	Clinician	An Analysis of a Community Psycho-Education Intervention for Nashville Muslims
Nancy Romanchek	Illinois	Community Health/Clinician	Islamophobia on Facebook and Identity Formation Among US Muslim Youth



Activities & Methods

Recruited community leaders from academic and community networks. They needed to have a leadership role in a sponsoring mosque/CBO and community health experience.

Activities:

- Two day in-person Learning Institute (LI)
- Three 90-min webinars tailored to cohort needs
- Asynchronous facilitated group discussions (FGDs)
- Multidisciplinary conference with shark tank sessions on leadership projects

Assessments:

- Individual surveys & group feedback sessions

Measure	Pre-LI	Post-LI		Post-Conference
		Mean ± Standard Deviation		
Self-Rated Knowledge about...				
General Health Research Knowledge	29.3 ± 8.5	32.8 ± 7.4	34.8 ± 5.9	
Patient-Centered Outcomes Research (PCOR)	1.9 ± 0.9	3.0 ± 0.7	3.5 ± 0.5	
Community-Based Participatory Research (CBPR)	2.4 ± 1.2	3.2 ± 0.7	3.4 ± 0.7	
Social Determinants of Health (SDH)	2.9 ± 0.7	3.5 ± 0.7	3.5 ± 0.5	
Comparative Effectiveness Research (CER)	1.6 ± 1.0	2.8 ± 0.9	3.1 ± 0.9	
Self-Rated Agreement with X statement related to Muslim-focused health research project				
I have the necessary skills to carry out a...	3.1 ± 0.6	3.3 ± 0.7	3.7 ± 0.5	
I intend/likely to carry out a... in the next 12 months	3.8 ± 0.4	3.7 ± 0.5	3.6 ± 0.7	

Lessons Learned

- Online modalities were less effective than in-person engagement and instruction
- Delphi-based discussions were ineffective as perceived as argument-based
- Participants desired greater mentorship that was more long-term as well as more funder interest
- This program was effective in increasing knowledge and skills, but behavioral change requires ecosystem of support

