



# Religious Concepts & Breast Cancer Screening Practices in the Greater Chicago Muslim Community

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# Agenda Today

- Present Findings from a Breast Cancer Screening study in Chicago-land
- Initiative on Islam and Medicine
  - Vision
  - Programmatic Endeavors
- Future Directions

## Initiative on Islam and Medicine



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### **Vision:**

To be a leading center for study and dialogue regarding the encounter between the Islamic tradition and medical science, with a particular focus on the American context.

### **Aims:**

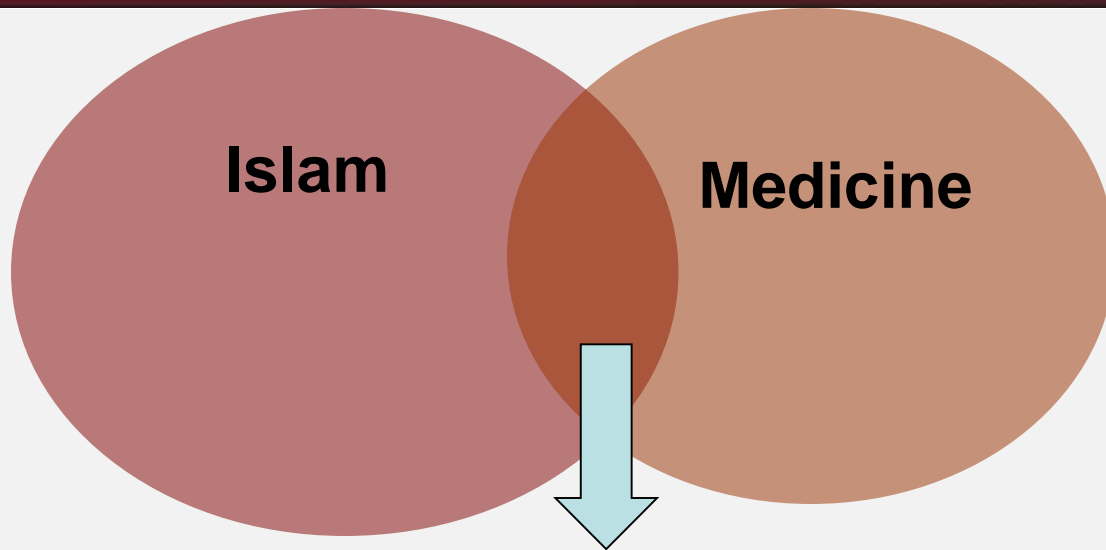
Led by Dr. Aasim I. Padela

(<https://pmr.uchicago.edu/padela>), the Initiative studies the encounter of Islam and Muslims with biomedicine through the lived experiences of Muslim patients, healthcare providers and religious leaders, focusing primarily on the American context. To improve the health and health care of Muslim patients, the

Initiative first studies how American Muslim patients' health behaviors and healthcare experiences are shaped by Islam. It then studies and advances means by which the American healthcare system might acknowledge and accommodate Muslim needs and preferences.

With respect to applied Islamic bioethics, the Initiative focuses on describing gaps in the Islamic bioethical discourse. In particular the Initiative looks at both the utility and shortcomings of Islamic ethico-legal judgments (*fatawa* and *qararat*) in providing ethical guidance and normative goals for the practice of medicine today. Bearing these challenges in view, the Initiative works in concert with traditional Islamic jurisconsults to clarify what Islam requires with respect to the practice and use of medical science.





# Vision

- To be a leading center for study and dialogue regarding the encounter between the Islamic tradition and medical science, with a particular focus on the American context.

# Aims

- Improve the health and health care of Muslim patients
- Help Muslim patients and health care professionals understand their practices within the framework of Islam
- Foster a more religiously accommodating health care system

# Scholarship

- Empirical health research
  - interplay of Islamic concepts, values and identity with American Muslim health behaviors.
  - 2011-12: Breast Cancer Screening Survey in Greater Chicago Community
    - Influence of Fatalism, Modesty Concerns and Discrimination on Screening Patterns



# Scholarship

- Multidisciplinary working groups
  - model and promote dialogue between Islamic theology & ethics with medical science
  - 2011-12
    - Permissibility Porcine-components in Vaccines
      - Istihala (transformation)
      - Policy Impact

# Scholarship

- Applied Islamic bioethics
  - Explore the how traditional Islamic scholars approach and address medical science and technology through Islamic ethico-legal verdicts
  - 3 Trainees:
    - Afshan Mohiuddin MD- Islamic Obligations at the End-of-Life
    - Shoaib Rasheed- Relationships between Ulema and the Laity- A Case Study of Organ Donation
    - Trinka Klima DNP- Ethics of Prenatal Genetic Diagnosis

# Events

- Host interdisciplinary conferences and symposia
  - accessible to both a lay and an academic audience
  - focused on the interaction of the Islamic tradition, bioethics, and policy in the West

# Do Islamic Values and Beliefs Influence Breast Cancer Screening Practices?

## Islamic Values

- Modesty
- Fatalistic Beliefs
- Discrimination

## Breast Cancer Screening

- Clinical Breast Exam
- Mammography Rates

# Benefits of the Study

- Using community-based research methods we can:
  - Spread awareness among physicians and patients
  - Develop religious and community based ways to encourage breast cancer screening
  - Build relations for future research & health interventions with the Muslim community



# Screening Guidelines

- NCI/ACS
  - Women 40 or older get mammograms q 1-2 yrs
- CDC & USPSTF
  - Women aged 50-74 get mammograms q 1-2 yrs
- CDC Healthy 2020 Goal
  - 81.1% of females btw 50-74 get screened

What is “known” about Breast Cancer in American Muslim community?

# US Muslims & Breast Ca Screening

- All-Muslim samples (4 studies)
  - Mammogram Ever- 69-73%
  - Biennial – 52-61%
- Arabs, S. Asian Samples (several)
  - Mammography Ever- 59-71%
  - Biennial – 39-60%

# Mammography in Ethnic Samples

- 199 South Asian women from California
  - 39% had a mammogram in past 2 yrs
- 570 Arab women in MI
  - 69% had a mammogram in past 1 yr
- 365 Arab women in MI
  - 58% had a mammogram in past 2 yrs

# Summary

- Breast cancer screening is underutilized by American Muslims
- Healthcare access & higher education predict higher rates of screening
- NO EXPLICIT EXAMINATION OF RELIGIOUS FACTORS



## Modesty

35. To what extent to you agree or disagree with each of the following statements:

	Completely agree	Somewhat Agree	Somewhat Disagree	Completely disagree
a. Maintaining modesty is important to me	<input type="checkbox"/> <sub>1</sub>	<input type="checkbox"/> <sub>2</sub>	<input type="checkbox"/> <sub>3</sub>	<input type="checkbox"/> <sub>4</sub>
b. My clothing demonstrates a commitment to Islamic modesty.	<input type="checkbox"/> <sub>1</sub>	<input type="checkbox"/> <sub>2</sub>	<input type="checkbox"/> <sub>3</sub>	<input type="checkbox"/> <sub>4</sub>
c. I practice gender segregation when having a dinner party at home	<input type="checkbox"/> <sub>1</sub>	<input type="checkbox"/> <sub>2</sub>	<input type="checkbox"/> <sub>3</sub>	<input type="checkbox"/> <sub>4</sub>
d. An unmarried man and unmarried women should not be alone together	<input type="checkbox"/> <sub>1</sub>	<input type="checkbox"/> <sub>2</sub>	<input type="checkbox"/> <sub>3</sub>	<input type="checkbox"/> <sub>4</sub>
e. I always look for a female doctor for myself	<input type="checkbox"/> <sub>1</sub>	<input type="checkbox"/> <sub>2</sub>	<input type="checkbox"/> <sub>3</sub>	<input type="checkbox"/> <sub>4</sub>
f. Hospital gowns are not modest	<input type="checkbox"/> <sub>1</sub>	<input type="checkbox"/> <sub>2</sub>	<input type="checkbox"/> <sub>3</sub>	<input type="checkbox"/> <sub>4</sub>
g. I have delayed seeing a doctor when I know the doctor is male	<input type="checkbox"/> <sub>1</sub>	<input type="checkbox"/> <sub>2</sub>	<input type="checkbox"/> <sub>3</sub>	<input type="checkbox"/> <sub>4</sub>

## Religious Health Fatalism Questionnaire

36. To what extent do you agree with the following statements?

	Completely agree	Somewhat Agree	Somewhat Disagree	Completely disagree
a. If I just pray to Allah about my health, He will work it out	<input type="checkbox"/> <sub>1</sub>	<input type="checkbox"/> <sub>2</sub>	<input type="checkbox"/> <sub>3</sub>	<input type="checkbox"/> <sub>4</sub>
b. When I am sick, I give my burdens to Allah and let Him handle it	<input type="checkbox"/> <sub>1</sub>	<input type="checkbox"/> <sub>2</sub>	<input type="checkbox"/> <sub>3</sub>	<input type="checkbox"/> <sub>4</sub>
c. Allah will take care of my health because I have found favor in his sight	<input type="checkbox"/> <sub>1</sub>	<input type="checkbox"/> <sub>2</sub>	<input type="checkbox"/> <sub>3</sub>	<input type="checkbox"/> <sub>4</sub>
d. If Allah wants me to have better health, He will provide.	<input type="checkbox"/> <sub>1</sub>	<input type="checkbox"/> <sub>2</sub>	<input type="checkbox"/> <sub>3</sub>	<input type="checkbox"/> <sub>4</sub>
e. I don't worry about my health because it is in Allah's hands	<input type="checkbox"/> <sub>1</sub>	<input type="checkbox"/> <sub>2</sub>	<input type="checkbox"/> <sub>3</sub>	<input type="checkbox"/> <sub>4</sub>
f. If I am sick, I have to wait until it is Allah's time for me to be healed	<input type="checkbox"/> <sub>1</sub>	<input type="checkbox"/> <sub>2</sub>	<input type="checkbox"/> <sub>3</sub>	<input type="checkbox"/> <sub>4</sub>

Site	School	Jumaa	Community event	Individuals critical to data collection
Masjid Al-Ihsan		6		Imam Abdullah Madyun
Muslim Education Center *	12			Javed Bhatti & Tayyaba Ahmad
Islamic Community Center of Illinois**	35	4		Mohamad Nasir
Arab American Family Services**			29	Itedal Shalabi & Sherhan Hamodeh
Zakat Foundation			14	Layla Mohammad
Masjid Al-Farooq		15		Imam Ousmane Drame & Abdurrahim Muslim
Int'l League of Muslim Women			30	Dorothy Rahman
Muslim Community Center	25			Afsar Ali & Tayyaba Ahmad
Islamic Foundation		35		Ayesha Bengali & Sahira Rahman
MECCA			16	Dr. Abdelgany Hamadeh
Muslim Women Resource Center			33	Sima Qureshi & Bouchra

# Participants (*N*=254)

Mosque Sites **52.8%**

Married **73.4%**

## Age

40-49 **41.2%**

50-74 **57.3%**

75+ **4.4%**

## Highest Level of Education

Less than High School **13.6%**

High School **23.3%**

Associates **22.9%**

Bachelors **24.2%**

Advanced Degree **16.1%**

## Racial/Ethnic Background

African American/Black **27.9%**

Arab/Arab American **35.8%**

South Asian **36.3%**

# Participant Description

## Annual Household Income

<\$45,000	<b>57.3%</b>
\$45,001 - \$105,000	<b>29.8%</b>
\$105,001+	<b>12.8%</b>

## Insurance Status

Have Insurance	<b>76%</b>
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## Have a Primary Care Physician

**84.3%**

## Health Outcomes

Have had a Mammogram

**75%**

Have had a Mammogram in 1-2 Years

**44%**

Have had a Clinical Breast Exam

**80%**



# Ever had a Mammogram

## Bivariate

- Fatalism – Punishing Allah Reappraisal
- Fatalism – Modified Power
- Religious Health Fatalism: Divine Provision

## Multivariate

- Age
- Being in US for > 10 yrs
- Higher Level of Education
- Having a Primary Care Physician

# Mammogram Within the Past 2 Years

## **Bivariate**

- Discrimination in Medical Settings

## **Multivariate**

- Having a Primary Care Physician
- Islamic Positive Religious Coping and Identification

# Summary

- Overall percent of participants (N=254) who have had mammograms within the past 2 years is 44%, which is lower than the national average of 50%
  - The percent of participants who ever had a mammogram is 75%.
- Individuals who have had a mammogram are usually older and have had a clinical breast exam.
- Individuals who are more fatalistic are less likely to have ever had a mammogram.
- Modesty was not related in mammogram screening rates but identity discrimination was.

# Future Directions

- Use focus groups to try and understand how religious beliefs inform women on their practices and attitudes toward breast cancer screening
  - Determine how these religious ideas of fatalism & modesty concerns impact screening rates and attitudes
  - Use mosque sermons and peer-educated based intervention to try and improve screening rates

# ***Acknowledgments***

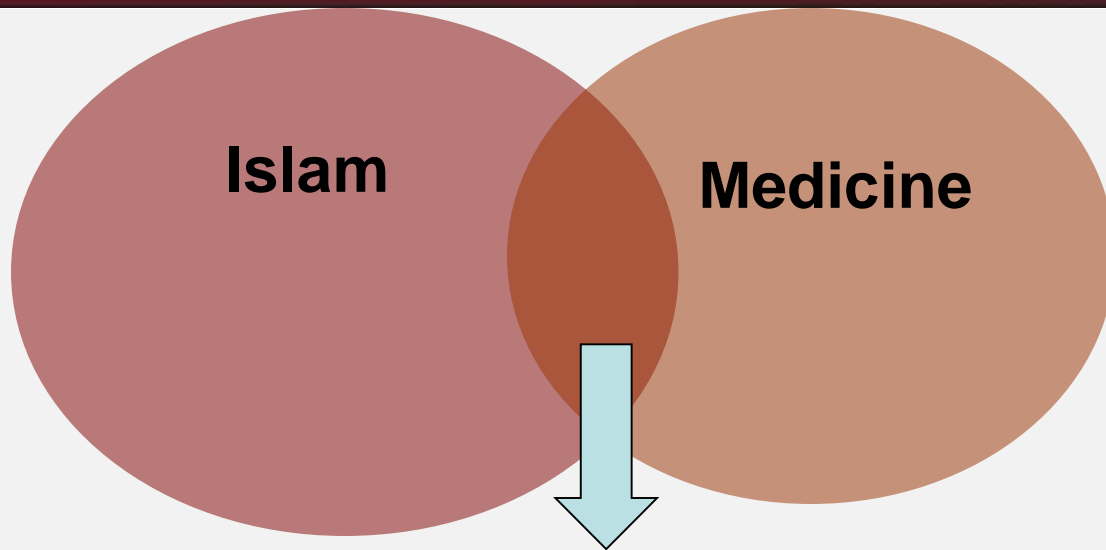
## • **Academic:**

- Farr Curlin MD
- Monica Peek MD MPH
- Funmi Olopade MD
- Nadiah Mohajir MPH
- Sohad Murrar MA
- Alison Cook BA
- Brigid Adviento
- Zahra Hosseinain MA

## • **Community Team:**

- Zaher Sahloul
- Ahlam Jbara
- Ifrah Magan





# *Negotiating an Identity Between Islam and Medicine*

- How do Muslims 'live-out' an Islamic identity in the halls of medicine?
- Are Muslims marginalized & discriminated against due to their religious identity?
- Implication
  - Workforce Diversity
  - Spiritual Renewal of Medical Practice
  - Glass Ceiling Effect (Academy, Gov't)

# Proposal

- 18 month project: Cost ~35k (20k granted)
- Empirical:
  - 750 Mailed Surveys through AMHP and IMANA membership list
- Theological:
  - Moral formation of a Physician-Healer
  - As-Shafi □ Shifa □  
Rahmani □ Therapeutics
  - Adab □ Suluk

# Potential Collaboration

- IMANA
- AMHP
- ISPU

# Applied Islamic Bioethics

- Public Conversations
  - Schiavo Case- What is an Islamic perspective on removal of a feeding tube for a patient in PVS?
- Medical School Curriculum
  - Should Muslim medical students be learning pelvic exams on “standardized” models?
- Clinical Setting
  - IVF for the Muslim couple
  - A Muslim patient asking for same gender provider

# Organ Donation And Islam

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# The Islamic Medical Ethics Council

The Moral Code is overseen by an independent Islamic Medical Ethics Council made up of Muslim Scholars and healthcare experts. They were selected for the council on the basis of their experience with healthcare or Islamic law. The Council is responsible for supervising the accuracy and applicability of the guidance we issue. Members of the council include:

## Muslim scholars:

- Mufti Muhammad ibn Adam al-Kawthari
- Shaykh Dr. Ridhwan Saleem
- Shaykh Amer Jamil
- Shaykh Haitham al-Haddad
- Shaykh Haytham Tamim
- Shaykh Musa Furber
- Shaykh Ruzwan Mohammed
- Shaykh Dr. Tawfique Chowdhury
- Imam Yunus Dudhwala
- Professor Tariq Ramadan

## Healthcare experts:

- Imam Dr. Asim Yusuf
- Imam Dr. Issam Ghannam



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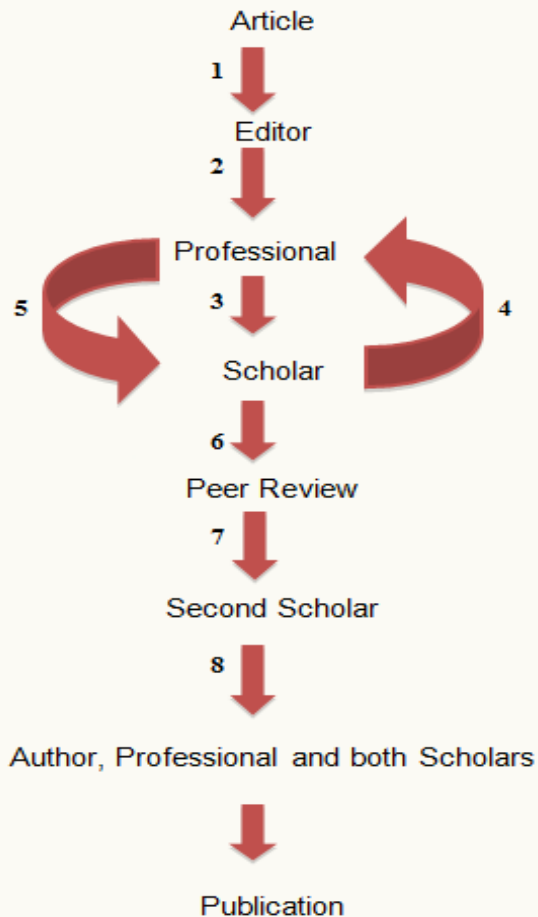


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# Process

## Proposal

- 10 Topical Reviews
  - Organ Donation
  - End-of-Life
  - Birth Control & Abortion
- Highlight Rulings & Gaps
- 1-day Symposia for MDs, Chaplains, Imams
- Working group to address gaps
- 35k per review





# Questions & Discussion