

# Analysis of Islamic Health Service Standardization: Implications and Challenges

**Endy Muhammad Astiwara**  
YASRI University, Jakarta, Indonesia  
Email: [astiwara14@gmail.com](mailto:astiwara14@gmail.com)

## Abstract

This study aims to analyze the standardization of Islamic healthcare services by exploring the implications and challenges faced in various countries. The research approach used is qualitative, with data collection methods through literature studies, policy document analysis, and in-depth interviews with experts and practitioners of Islamic healthcare services to obtain comprehensive data. Thematic analysis methods are applied to identify key themes such as the integration of Islamic principles, the standardization process, and obstacles that arise in its implementation. The research findings show that several countries have adopted Islamic healthcare standards such as halal certification for medical products and sharia-compliant medical procedures even though there is no universal standard that is accepted globally. Key challenges include regulatory inconsistencies, limited human resources, infrastructure gaps, and cultural variations in the application of Islamic values in the healthcare environment. Opportunities for international collaboration are a promising path to developing more inclusive and globally recognized standards. Strengthening the role of certification bodies and religious authorities is also key in supporting the adoption of Islamic healthcare standards. This study emphasizes the need for a more comprehensive approach to ensure that Islamic healthcare services are aligned with global quality standards, while respecting religious and cultural values.

**Keywords:** *Islamic Healthcare, Standardization, Sharia Compliance, Healthcare Quality, Global Collaboration.*

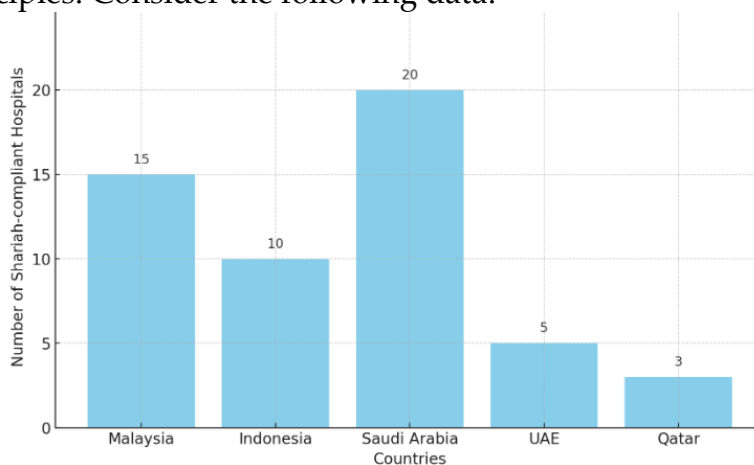


## A. INTRODUCTION

The development of Islamic-based health services in various countries is inseparable from the increasing demand for a service system that respects the religious values of Muslim patients. The development of this trend certainly encourages various health institutions to adopt standards and practices that are in line with sharia principles (Gonçalves et al., 2015). Malaysia has a growing concept of Islamic Medical Practice, where hospitals and clinics not only implement medical procedures in accordance with Islamic law, but also involve scholars or sharia advisors in the complex medical decision-making process. Malaysia has even become one of the pioneers (after Indonesia) in the development of Shariah-Compliant Hospitals, which then became a model for other countries that want to implement a similar concept (Saputra et al., 2025).

Saudi Arabia and Qatar have also developed many Islamic-based health services as an integral part of their national health systems. Hospitals in these countries not only ensure the availability of halal medical products, but also implement treatment procedures that respect patient privacy, such as separating male and female treatment rooms and providing spiritual support during the treatment

process (Mahdavi et al., 2013; Nabila & Manfarisyah, 2023). Indonesia has introduced the concept of Islamic health services, which is developing along with the increasing number of Islamic hospitals and halal certification institutions that play a role in ensuring compliance with sharia standards, including in the use of medical materials, the sterilization process of medical devices, and the management of corpses according to Islamic law (Maharani et al., 2021; Widiastuti et al., 2024; Zaidi et al., 2015). This concept was initiated by the Majelis Ulama Indonesia (MUI) through the Dewan Syariah Indonesia-Majelis Ulama Indonesia (DSN-MUI) which plays a significant role in developing Islamic health service standards in Indonesia. DSN-MUI issued Fatwa Number 107/DSN-MUI/X/2016 concerning Guidelines for Organizing Hospitals Based on Sharia Principles. Consider the following data:



**Figure 1. Number of Shariah-Compliant Hospitals**

Source: data processed and modified from medsurgeindia.com

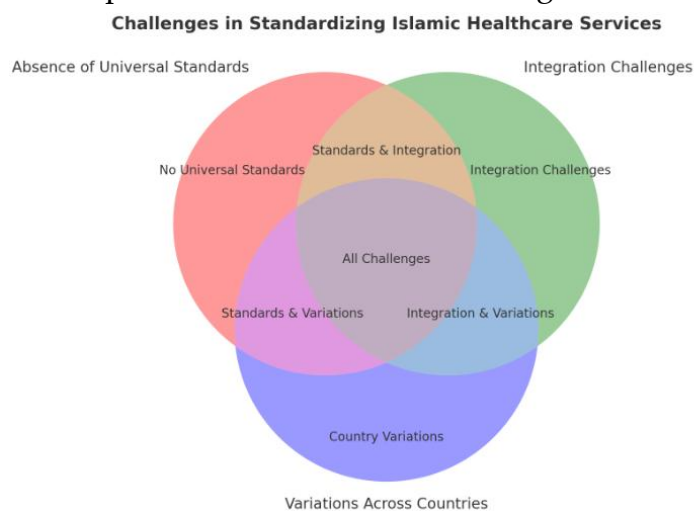
This development certainly shows a growing awareness of the importance of integrating religious values into health services, both in countries with Muslim majorities and in countries with Muslim minorities. Collective efforts to formulate universal Islamic health service standards are an important step to support the creation of services that are not merely of high quality, indeed also respect cultural diversity and religious beliefs.

The importance of health services that comply with Islamic principles lies in the effort to present a service system that not focusing on the medical aspect as such, moreover pays attention to the spiritual dimension and religious values of Muslim patients. The halal principle that is widely highlighted by the community aims to ensure that all medical procedures, use of drugs, and provision of food during treatment comply with sharia provisions (Hosseini et al., 2024; Shirazi et al., 2014). The use of halal materials, from drugs to medical devices, is a crucial aspect in maintaining the sanctity of the treatment process for Muslim patients.

Islamic medical ethics are the main guidelines in carrying out health practices based on moral and humanitarian values, this principle demands a high level of professionalism from health workers, where respect for patient privacy, valid permission or approval before medical procedures (informed consent), and respect for patient decisions related to their religious beliefs are top priorities (Frastuti & Tarigan,

2024; Ngatindriatun et al., 2024; Ratnawati & Kholis, 2020). Health services that adopt Islamic values also encourage service providers to provide spiritual support, which plays an important role in supporting the holistic healing process (Iqbal et al., 2023; Xie et al., 2014).

Global demands for quality and inclusive health service standards are growing along with increasing awareness of the rights of every individual to access fair and dignified health services, regardless of cultural background, religion, or social status (Huda et al., 2019; Mullon et al., 2017). Globalization and high human mobility encourage health systems in various countries to adapt in providing more diverse services and being sensitive to the special needs of patients from various backgrounds (Jonkisz et al., 2021; Suryani et al., 2023). Quality health service standards require safe, effective, and evidence-based procedures, while the inclusive aspect emphasizes respect for the cultural values and beliefs of patients as part of a holistic healing process. The author simplifies this data in the following visualization image:



**Figure 2. Challenges in Standardizing Islamic Healthcare Services**

Source: modified data from the study Integrating Islamic Values and Modern Medical Practices to Enhance Public Health in Muslim Communities processed with matplotlib for visualization and matplotlib\_venn

The data visualization uses Venn diagrams to illustrate the main challenges in standardizing Islamic healthcare services, including the absence of universal standards, the challenges of integrating Islamic principles into modern healthcare systems, and the variation in the implementation of standards across countries. Each circle in the diagram represents one of the key challenges, while overlapping areas indicate overlapping challenges. For example, the intersection of “Absence of Universal Standards” and “Integration Challenges” highlights countries that are struggling to formulate medical guidelines that are in line with Islamic principles due to the lack of global standards. With this visual approach, the complexity of the problem becomes easier to understand, providing a clear picture of which aspects require more attention in the effort to formulate inclusive and uniform standards.

This issue is also a concern for international organizations such as the World Health Organization (WHO) and the Joint Commission International (JCI) which

continue to encourage the implementation of global standards that prioritize patient rights, service safety, and transparency in medical practices. Health facilities around the world are starting to adopt more distinctive policies, such as providing halal food, prayer rooms, and training health workers to understand the specific needs of patients from different backgrounds. These efforts are of course not merely aimed at improving the quality of service, but also building mutual trust between patients and medical personnel, which ultimately contributes to better treatment outcomes (Mahmoudian et al., 2023; Suryani et al., 2023).

One of the major challenges in the development of Islamic healthcare is the absence of universally accepted standards governing medical practice based on Islamic principles. Different countries apply different guidelines in integrating Islamic values into their healthcare systems, creating significant variation in care practices (Mahmoudian et al., 2023; Naserirad et al., 2023). This lack of uniformity creates a gap, with some countries having more comprehensive regulations, while others are still adapting to a plenty of conventional approach. Differences in interpretation of Islamic law across countries also contribute to inconsistencies in the application of these standards. Without uniform guidelines, the quality of Islamic healthcare can vary, affecting patient perceptions of the safety and comfort of the care they receive.

This study intense to analyze the standards that have been implemented in Islamic health services in various countries, in order to understand the framework used to ensure that Islamic principles, such as halal, *thayyib*, and Islamic medical ethics, are reflected in healthcare practices. This study will examine how these standards affect various aspects of healthcare, including quality of care, patient experience, and adherence to spiritual and cultural values.

## **B. LITERATURE REVIEW**

### **1. The Concept of Islamic Health Services: Key Principles**

Islamic-based healthcare services are born from core principles that combine Islamic spiritual and ethical values in medical practice. These principles include safeguarding religion (*hifz ad-din*), soul (*hifz an-nafs*), mind (*hifz al-aql*), lineage (*hifz an-nasl*), and property (*hifz al-mal*). Values such as *Rabbaniyah* (divinity), *Akhlaqiyah* (morality), *Waqi'iyah* (reality), and *Insaniyyah* (humanity) are the foundation for building services that not only focus on medical aspects, indeed provide an experience that is in accordance with Islamic teachings. The implementation of these values can be seen in the use of halal products, a calming Islamic atmosphere, and services that uphold sharia principles, all of which aim to increase patient comfort and satisfaction (Islam et al., 2015; Naserirad et al., 2023; Wahyuningsih et al., 2023).

Several previous studies have discussed are describe how the application of Islamic values plays a role in healthcare and its impact on patient experience. A literature review found that aspects such as a friendly welcome, empathy, genuine care, and reminders to perform the five daily prayers contribute greatly to building a warm relationship between health workers and patients. Actions such as wearing a hijab for patients, preventing *ikhtilat* (free mixing between men and women), and

medical procedures that pay attention to gender appropriateness, further strengthen the sense of security and respect for Muslim patients, the practice of reciting the *basmalah* and praying before medical procedures is also an important element that adds a spiritual dimension to the care process (Ikram et al., 2015; Islam et al., 2015).

It is seen that the implementation of Islamic values not just provides a sense of spiritual calm for Muslim patients, even more able to improve the overall quality of service. Patient satisfaction with Islamic hospitals tends to be high, reflecting the great potential to continue developing this service model. Continuous investment in human resource development is needed, as well as in-depth research on Islamic certification in health facilities so that this service standard can be implemented consistently (Amin et al., 2024; Ikram et al., 2015; Kamil & Hatta, 2025).

## 2. Standardization in Global Health Services

Standardization in global health services is not just about setting rules or procedures, but more about creating a system that can guarantee quality, safety, and equal access for everyone. Each country has a unique approach, adapting its health system to the needs of its community and local conditions, but still based on the principles of international standards in order to achieve more equitable and quality services. Sweden has implemented a decentralized, tax-funded healthcare system (Azam & Abdullah, 2021; Kamil & Hatta, 2025). The central government sets basic principles and general guidelines, while city councils and municipalities are at the forefront of providing services directly to the community. This approach ensures fair and equitable access, with all residents, including children up to the age of 20, entitled to free dental care. This model not only ensures equal distribution of services, furthermore fosters a sense of local responsibility for maintaining the quality of public health (Azam & Abdullah, 2021; ISMAIL et al., 2017).

Italy has already introduced a public healthcare system since 1978. The government subsidizes almost all aspects of healthcare under this scheme, from medicines to outpatient and dental care. Health insurance is mandatory, ensuring that every citizen and resident has equal access to the services they need. This approach creates a strong social safety net, making healthcare a fundamental right, rather than an additional benefit. Taiwan offers another example with its technological innovation. Since 1995, the country has adopted a universal healthcare system managed by the government. One of its major breakthroughs is the use of Smart Cards, which contain the entire medical records of patients, this innovation simplifies administrative processes, speeds up access to medical information, and overall improves the efficiency of health services. Taiwan's success shows that well-integrated technology can be key to supporting high standards of care (Kusumadewi et al., 2024).

It is pronounced that effective standardization requires a combination of people-oriented policies, sustainable funding, and the use of technologies that support efficiency and transparency. The ultimate goal remains the same, although each country's approach may varies: ensuring that every individual has adequate access to quality healthcare, this global effort serves as a reminder that health is a fundamental

right that must be guaranteed by states, and standardization is a critical tool in making that happen.

### **3. Previous Studies Pertained to the Implementation of Islamic Health Standards in Several Countries**

The implementation of Islamic health standards in several countries has become a topic of increasing study, especially in the effort to integrate sharia principles into modern healthcare systems. Each country has a particular approach, but with the same goal: to provide health services that are in line with Islamic values.

Research that is trending and popular in Indonesia conducted by (Ahmed et al., 2024) highlights the importance of adopting healthy living indicators from the perspective of Islamic religious education. One example is the practice of washing hands with soap and running water which is not only part of efforts to maintain cleanliness, but is also in line with the concept of *thaharah* (purity) in Islamic teachings. This study emphasizes that simple health practices can have deep spiritual meaning when integrated with Islamic values, while strengthening public awareness of the importance of healthy living.

A study in Iran conducted by researchers from (Sadati et al., 2014) explored the implementation of sharia law in health services. The study found that despite differences in social and cultural contexts, both Indonesia and Malaysia apply similar sharia principles in health services. The application includes medical aspects not the use of halal products and gender-based health services as such, but also the aspects of hospital management that emphasize to Islamic values, such as the provision of prayer rooms and visiting hour policies that are adjusted to prayer times.

Another study in Iran by the (Bayrami et al., 2016) reviewed the integration of Islam and medicine in the preparation of final assignments for medical students. The results of the study showed that although efforts to integrate Islamic values in medical education have begun, the concept still needs to be refined. One of the main challenges identified is the absence of standard guidelines that can help students link medical knowledge with sharia principles in depth (Rulindo et al., 2024).

### **C. METHOD**

The research approach used is a qualitative method. This approach was chosen to gain an in-depth understanding of the process of standardizing Islamic health services, including the implications and challenges faced in various countries. Researchers can explore the meaning, perspective, and dynamics behind the implementation of Islamic health standards.

The data in this study were collected using several methods, namely as follows:

#### **1. Literature Study**

The researcher conducted an in-depth review of various academic sources, such as international journals, books, health institution reports, and policy documents that discuss Islamic health service standards in various countries.

## 2. Policy Document Analysis

Official documents such as government regulations, Islamic hospital guidelines, and halal certification in the medical field were analyzed to understand the regulatory framework applied.

## 3. In-depth Interviews

Interviews can be conducted with Islamic health experts, medical practitioners, and patient involved in the preparation and implementation of Islamic health standards to complement secondary data.

The collected data was analyzed using the thematic analysis method. This technique is used to identify the main themes that emerge from the results of literature studies and policy documents. The steps taken include:

### 1. Data Coding

Categorizing relevant information from various sources into specific themes, such as the basic principles of Islamic health, standardization processes, and implementation challenges.

### 2. Identify Patterns and Relationships

Exploring the relationships between themes to understand the dynamics that influence standardization processes across countries.

### 3. Data Interpretation

Develop a narrative explaining the main findings, highlighting similarities and differences in practices across countries, and formulate recommendations for the development of more comprehensive Islamic health standards.

## D. RESULT AND DISCUSSION

### 1. Analysis of Islamic Health Services Standardization

One of the important things in the development of Islamic health services is the existence of standards that ensure that medical practices are in line with sharia principles. In many countries, the standards that are applied generally include halal certification for medicines and medical devices, as well as the implementation of sharia compliance in medical procedures. This halal certification strive for ensuring that medicines, such as drugs and vaccines, are chemical substances and medical devices that contact with human are free from components are prohibited in Islam, such as swine, canine, alcohol and any impure elements.

Hospitals that adopt the concept of Islamic health services also pay attention to other aspects that support patient comfort and peace. For example, there is a separation of treatment rooms for men and women, the provision of easily accessible prayer rooms, and spiritual support services provided by health workers or religious leaders. All of these elements are designed so that patients not only receive physical care, but also mental and spiritual support that is in line with their beliefs.

*"The sterilization process of medical devices in our hospital uses materials that have been verified as halal. Even in surgical procedures, we ensure that there is a joint prayer before the medical procedure begins. This process is not only a ritual aspect, but also part of an effort to create inner peace for patients and medical personnel."*

Analysis of the implementation of these standards shows that although some countries already have specific guidelines, such as in Malaysia with MS 1900:2014 Shariah-based Quality Management Systems, there is no universal standard that comprehensively regulates all aspects of Islamic healthcare services. For example, in Saudi Arabia, the main focus is on ensuring the halalness of medicines, while other medical procedures tend to follow international protocols with minor adjustments to sharia, this non-uniformity poses challenges, especially in the accreditation process for Islamic hospitals at the international level.

Islamic healthcare standards have several fundamental differences compared to conventional and international healthcare standards. These differences mainly lie in the integration of Islamic spiritual values in every aspect of service, from the medical process to the work ethics of healthcare workers. Conventional standards, such as those implemented by the World Health Organization (WHO) and Joint Commission International (JCI), place more emphasis on clinical aspects, patient safety, and efficiency of medical procedures without considering religious aspects specifically.

The *halal* and *thayyib* aspects are the main foundations. For example, in medical procedures, the selection of medicines and medical devices must go through a halal certification process, ensuring that there are no haram elements in their composition, and vice versa that conventional standards emphasize the clinical efficacy and safety of medical products (Hidayah et al., 2024; Nadrattuzaman et al., 2021). The concept of sharia compliance regulates certain medical procedures, such as the separation of treatment rooms based on gender, spiritual support during the healing process, and the implementation of worship facilitated by the hospital.

JCI as an international accreditation body has strict standards covering risk management, infection control, and patient safety, but does not provide specific space for religious practices. Meanwhile, several hospitals in countries with significant Muslim populations have begun implementing sharia accreditation as a complement to international accreditation, ensuring that the services provided are not only of high quality but also in line with Islamic values.

**Table 1. Comparison Between Islamic, Conventional and International Healthcare Standards**

Aspect	Islamic Health Services	Conventional Services	International Standards (JCI)
Main Principles	Halal, Thayyib, Syariah Compliance	Medical Professionalism, Clinical Efficacy	Patient Safety, Risk Management
Medicines and Medical Devices	Must be halal certified	Focus on safety and clinical efficacy	Meeting international standards

<b>Treatment Rooms</b>	Gender-based separation of space	No specific separation	Based on clinical needs
<b>Spiritual Support</b>	Worship facilities and spiritual guidance	Not a priority	Optional, depending on hospital policy
<b>Patient-Medical Personnel Interaction</b>	Based on the values of sincerity and mercy	Based on professionalism	Based on universal ethics
<b>Accreditation</b>	Syariah Accreditation, Halal Certification	National Accreditation	JCI or other international accreditation bodies

Table 1 explains that Islamic healthcare offers a more holistic approach by combining medical and spiritual aspects, while conventional services and international standards focus more on clinical aspects and risk management. Although this approach can improve the comfort and satisfaction of Muslim patients, the main challenge faced is the lack of universal standards that regulate the integration of Islamic principles in healthcare services consistently across countries.

The driving and inhibiting factors in the implementation of Islamic health service standards reflect complex dynamics, involving aspects of regulation, culture, human resources, and infrastructure support. One of the main drivers is the high awareness of the Muslim community of the importance of health services that are in line with sharia values. Regulatory support from the government is an important catalyst in the development of these standards. In Indonesia, halal certification for drugs and medical devices and guidelines for sharia hospitals are important foundations for health institutions to adapt to the concept of Islamic-based services. The implementation of these standards faces a number of challenges that cannot be ignored. One of the biggest obstacles is the absence of universal standards that can be used as a common reference. A director of a sharia hospital said:

*"We often have to refer to MUI fatwas or consult directly with clerics to ensure that our procedures are in accordance with Islamic principles. Unfortunately, there are no standard guidelines that apply nationally, let alone internationally."*

Another challenge is the lack of medical personnel who have a passably understanding of sharia principles. A medical worker who works at a sharia hospital said:

*"Most of the training we receive focuses on the technical aspects of medicine. There is no specific training on how to integrate Islamic values into daily practice. This is very important to ensure that the services we provide are not only medically qualified, but also provide spiritual peace for Muslim patients."*

Integrating Islamic healthcare with modern healthcare systems is also a challenge. Some established medical procedures need to be adapted to Sharia principles, which often raises debate. An Islamic healthcare expert highlights this challenge:

*"Creating harmony between modern medical protocols and sharia values is not an easy matter. There needs to be a harmonization that not only considers the spiritual aspect, but also ensures that international medical standards are met."*

Patients think that the services in sharia hospitals are considered to provide inner peace because of the attention to spiritual aspects, such as reminders of prayer times and guarantees of the use of halal medicines. A patient expressed his shortcomings:

*"I feel more comfortable being treated in a sharia hospital because there is special attention to my spiritual needs. However, the facilities in sharia hospitals are often not as good as other general hospitals. Sometimes, I have to choose between physical comfort and inner peace."*

Driving factors in the implementation of Islamic healthcare standards include increasing awareness among Muslim communities, regulatory support, and the drive to provide more humanistic and spiritual services. The lack of universal guidelines, the lack of trained medical personnel, and the challenge of harmonizing medical procedures with sharia values are major obstacles.

## **2. Implications of Standardization**

The standardization of Islamic health services has a significant impact on the quality of service and patient experience, especially in providing a sense of comfort and greater trust in the medical procedures being undertaken. The application of sharia principles in health services does not solely focus on the medical aspect, even more places Islamic spiritual and ethical values as an integral part of its process.

Based on the results of literature studies and interviews with medical personnel in several Islamic hospitals, it appears that patients feel more appreciated and receive treatment that is in accordance with their beliefs. A patient who has undergone treatment at a Islamic hospital said, This aspect strengthens the relationship of trust between patients and health workers, which contributes to increasing overall patient satisfaction.

The presence of spiritual support and prayer before a medical procedure provides a sense of calm for patients, which psychologically supports the recovery process. In this context, Islamic healthcare standards not only improve the quality of medical services, but also present a holistic approach that takes into account the spiritual and emotional aspects of patients, ultimately creating a more humane and patient-centered care experience:

*"I feel more at ease because the entire treatment process is carried out with Islamic values in mind. Even before the medical procedure was carried out, the doctor started with a prayer and explained the procedure patiently, so I felt more confident."*

The standardization of Islamic health services has a significant impact on the quality of service and patient experience, especially in providing a sense of comfort and greater trust in the medical procedures being undertaken. The application of sharia principles in health services does not only focus on the medical aspect, but also places Islamic spiritual and ethical values as an integral part of the treatment process. This is reflected in various aspects of service, such as the provision of halal food, the separation of treatment rooms between male and female patients, and spiritual guidance that supports the healing process.

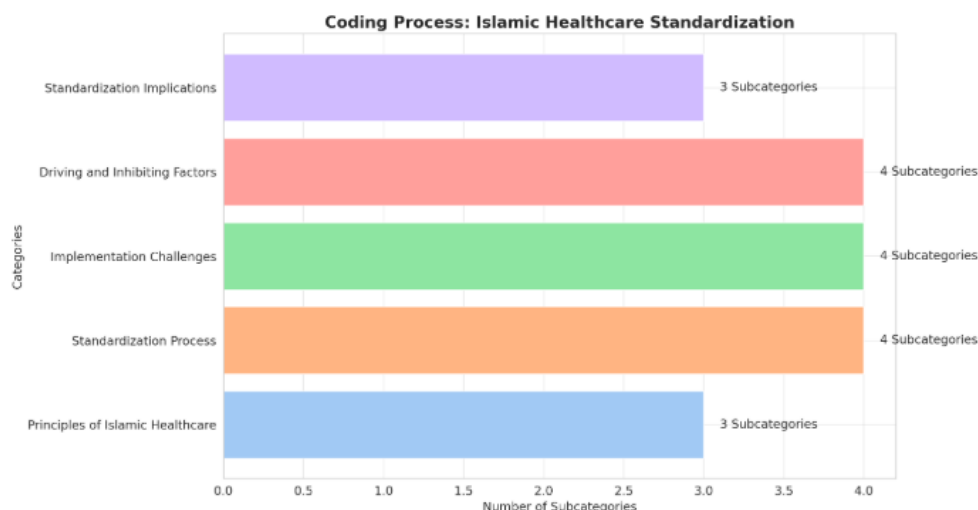
Entrenched in the results of literature studies and interviews with medical personnel in several Islamic hospitals, it appears that patients feel more appreciated and receive treatment that is in accordance with their beliefs. A patient who had undergone treatment at the Islamic hospital said:

*"This feeling of calm arises because I know that everything given to me is guaranteed to be halal and in accordance with Islamic teachings."*

This aspect strengthens the relationship of trust between patients and healthcare professionals, which contributes to overall patient satisfaction. Having spiritual support and prayer before a medical procedure provides a sense of calm for patients, which psychologically supports the recovery process. Islamic healthcare standards not only improve the quality of medical services, moreover present a holistic approach that takes into account the spiritual and emotional aspects of patients, ultimately creating a more humane and patient-centered care experience.

*"We are taught to serve patients with heart. Not only giving medicine, but also making sure they feel heard, respected, and supported in their spiritual aspects."*

The data supporting this impact shows an increase in patient satisfaction levels in Islamic hospitals. A survey conducted in several Islamic hospitals in Indonesia showed that 87% of patients felt more comfortable with services that paid attention to spiritual and cultural aspects. As many as 82% of patients stated that they had more confidence in the medical procedures carried out because of the halal guarantee and compliance with Islamic principles. This data confirms that the implementation of Islamic health service standards plays an important role in building a strong relationship of trust between patients and medical personnel, as well as creating a more inclusive and spiritually appropriate care environment for patients.



**Figure 2. Coding Process: Islamic Healthcare Standardization**

The coding process in this research categorizes key themes related to Islamic healthcare standardization, with a focus on identifying the fundamental aspects, implementation processes, and challenges faced across different settings.

1. Core Principles of Islamic Healthcare

This theme highlights the integration of Islamic values into healthcare services. Principles such as *Hifz ad-Din* (protection of faith), *Hifz an-Nafs* (protection of life), and *Insaniyyah* (humanity) guide the ethical and spiritual dimensions of patient care.

2. Standardization Process

The process involves formalizing Islamic healthcare practices through initiatives like halal certification for medical products, Shariah-compliant hospital management, and the development of procedural guidelines to ensure adherence to Islamic ethics.

3. Challenges in Implementation

Key impediments are mainly not yet formed the universal standards, variations in implementation across countries, and limited resources for training healthcare professionals, these factors contribute to inconsistencies in applying Islamic healthcare principles.

4. Supporting Factors

Success in standardization is often driven by strong regulatory frameworks, collaboration with religious authorities, and community engagement to make certain acceptance and compliance with Islamic healthcare guidelines. The analysis reveals a dynamic interplay between these themes, where effective standardization requires balancing religious principles with modern medical practices, supported by perspicuous regulations and institutional cooperation as well.

The implementation of Islamic health service standards has significant consequences for various parties involved, from health workers to policy makers. For health workers, this standardization requires a deep understanding of the principles of sharia applied in medical services. In addition to qualified medical skills, health

workers are also required to have cultural sensitivity and sensitivity to Islamic values in daily practice, and these skills include an understanding of sharia-compliant procedures, such as gender-based separation of treatment rooms and the use of halal medicines. Special training on sharia-based health services is an important need to corroborate that the expected service standards can be applied consistently.

The implementation of sharia standards requires adjustments to internal policies and increased infrastructure capacity from the perspective of hospital management. Management must ascertain that the standard operating procedures (SOPs) implemented are in accordance with Islamic principles, from the patient admission process to medical procedures. Providing facilities that support the spiritual needs of patients, such as prayer rooms, arranging visiting schedules that take prayer times into account, and fulfilling the privacy of female patients, is the responsibility of management in supporting more holistic services.

The consequence lies in the need to design policies that support the implementation of Islamic health service standards nationally. The government is expected to transparently establish and comprehensive regulations to make uniform application of standards in various health facilities. The preparation of guidelines and monitoring mechanisms is an important step to ensure that hospitals that implement sharia principles truly comply with the standards set. Collaboration between the government and religious authorities is needed to formulate policies that focus not only on medical aspects, but also on the underlying spiritual values.

Certification bodies and religious authorities play a key role in supporting the process of standardizing Islamic healthcare services. Certification bodies, such as the Indonesian Ulama Council (MUI) in Indonesia or the Malaysian Islamic Development Agency (JAKIM) in Malaysia, should play a role in establishing the international halal criteria that are used to assess the conformity of medical products and procedures to sharia principles. This certification process provides assurance to patients that the services they receive have undergone rigorous verification and are in accordance with Islamic values.

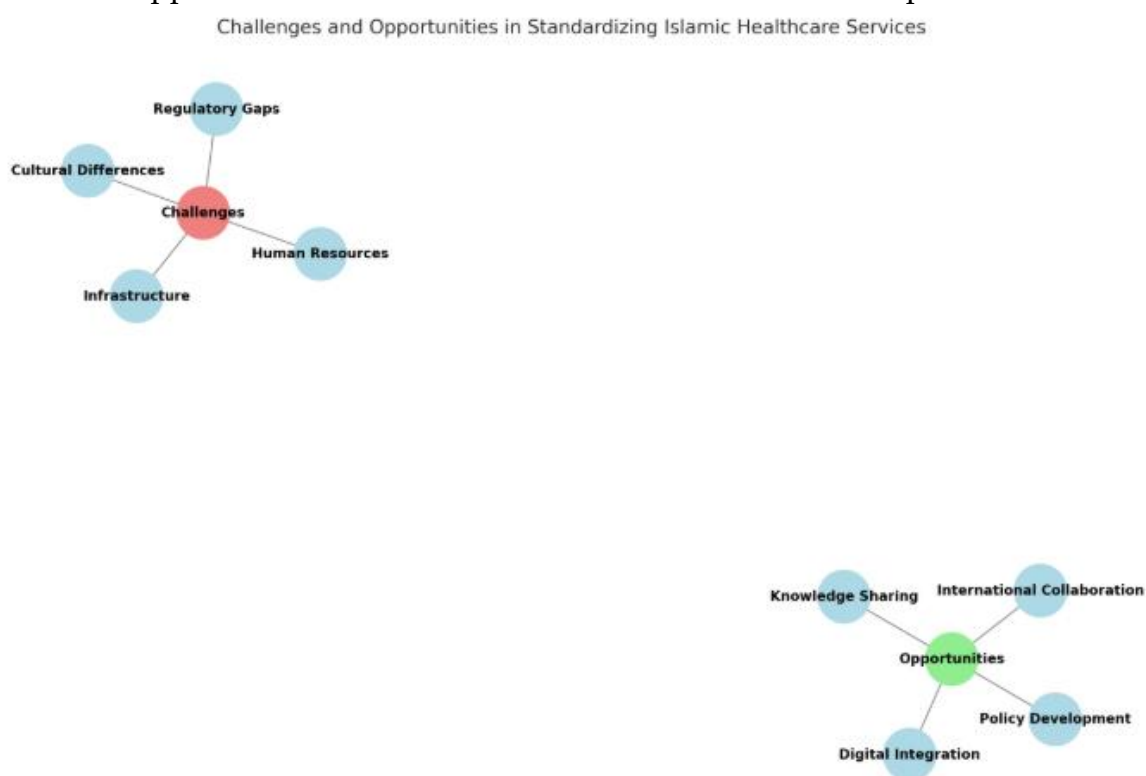
### **3. Challenges and Opportunities**

Standardization of Islamic health services has a significant impact on the quality of service and patient experience, especially in providing a sense of comfort and increasing trust in the medical procedures being undertaken. The application of sharia principles does not just focus on the medical aspect, but also integrates Islamic spiritual and ethical values into the care process. This factor is seen in various aspects of service, such as the provision of halal food, the separation of treatment rooms between male and female patients, and the presence of spiritual guidance that supports the healing process.

The role of certification bodies and religious authorities is key in supporting this standardization. Institutions such as the Indonesian Ulema Council (MUI) in Indonesia and the Malaysian Islamic Development Agency (JAKIM) in Malaysia could set halal criteria that are used to assess the conformity of medical products and

procedures to sharia principles. Religious authorities provide moral guidance and act as advisors in formulating internal hospital policies. Firm collaboration among certification bodies, religious authorities, government, and hospitals is a key foundation in ensuring the successful implementation of Islamic healthcare standards.

Despite its many benefits, the implementation of these standards faces a number of complex challenges because the absence of a universally accepted standard causes variations in practice in each country. The limited number of health workers who understand sharia principles and the lack of special training are obstacles in themselves. The need for facilities that support sharia-based procedures, such as gender-based separation of treatment rooms, is often difficult to meet. Cultural aspects also influence the community's acceptance of Islamic health services, so a continuous educational approach is needed to build wider awareness and acceptance.



**Figure 4. Challenges and Opportunities in Standardizing Islamic Healthcare Services**

Standardization of Islamic healthcare services plays as supreme role in improving the quality of service and enriching the patient experience. The application of sharia principles not merely pays attention to medical aspects, but also integrates Islamic spiritual and ethical values into the care process. This is reflected in various aspects of the service, such as the provision of halal food, the separation of treatment rooms between male and female patients, and the presence of spiritual guidance that supports the healing process.

Certification bodies and religious authorities play a central role in supporting the implementation of these standards. Institutions such as the Indonesian Ulema Council (MUI) and the Malaysian Islamic Development Agency (JAKIM) set halal

criteria that serve as a reference in assessing the conformity of medical products and procedures with sharia principles. Religious authorities act as moral advisors who provide direction in formulating internal hospital policies, especially those related to Islamic values. Close collaboration between certification bodies, religious authorities, the government, and hospitals is an important foundation for ensuring the implementation of Islamic healthcare standards runs optimally.

There is also a great opportunity to encourage international collaboration in developing global standards for Islamic healthcare. Countries with more experience in implementing sharia standards, such as Indonesia, Pakistan, Malaysia and Saudi Arabia, can be strategic partners in sharing best practices. International forums and world health organizations have an important role to play in facilitating cross-country dialogue to formulate more comprehensive guidelines and encourage global harmonization of standards. The development of digital technology opens up new opportunities to build an integrated health information system, enabling a more effective exchange of knowledge and experience. It is hoped that Islamic healthcare standards can become a globally recognized framework and contribute to improving the quality of healthcare services that are in line with Islamic values through this collaboration, especially in Indonesia.

## E. CONCLUSION

This study reveals that the standardization of Islamic healthcare services plays a vital role in ensuring quality of care that is in line with sharia values, while improving patient experience and hospital management efficiency. Although challenges such as regulatory gaps, limited human resources, and infrastructure remain obstacles, opportunities for international collaboration and strengthening the role of certification bodies and religious authorities can encourage the creation of more comprehensive and globally recognized standards. This standardization has the potential to make a significant contribution to the development of inclusive and quality healthcare systems with continued efforts, not only in Muslim-majority countries but also in the global context.

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