THE FIRST INTERNATIONAL CONGRESS ON HEALTH SERVICES TRANSFORMATION

اولین کنگره بین المللی تحول خدمات سلامت

۲۸ و ۲۷ مهر ماه

Code: 1712



Management of respiratory infections in religious mass gatherings: A Scoping Review

Kovsar Alipoor1, Mohsen Nouri2 *, Erfan Yousefzadeh3,4, Mahdiyeh Mohammadi Shahraji1, Yasaman Fallah5, Fatemeh Torabi Bagh Abrishami1, Mahsa Ghojavand1

1. Student Research Committee, Faculty of Nursing and Midwifery, Bushehr University of Medical Sciences, Bushehr, Iran
2. Health Management and Economics Research Center, Health Management Research Institute, Iran University of Medical Sciences, Tehran, Iran
3. Student Research Committee, Iran University of Medical Sciences, Tehran, Iran
4. Department of Health in Disasters and Emergencies, School of Health Management and Information Sciences, Iran University of Medical Sciences, Tehran, Iran
5. Student Research Committee, School of Nursing and Midwifery, Isfahan University of Medical Sciences, Isfahan, Iran

Background

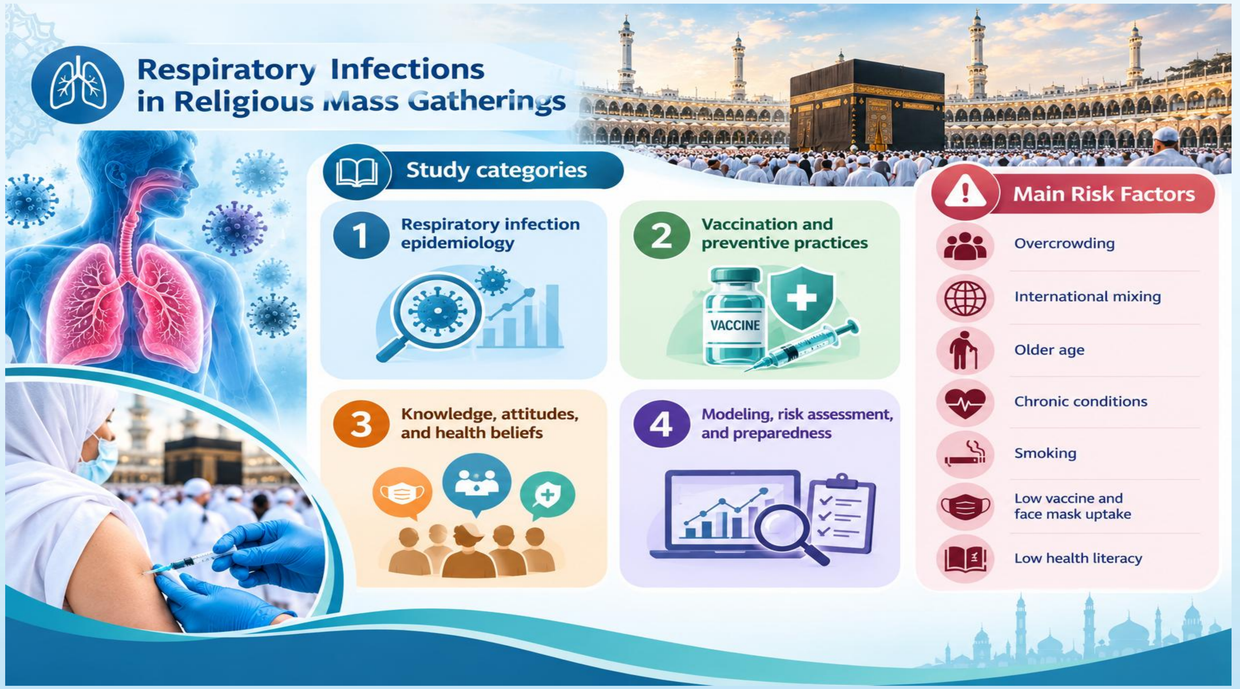
Religious mass gatherings increase the risk of infectious diseases and adverse health outcomes. This study aimed to review the management of respiratory infections in religious mass gatherings and identify strategies for prevention and preparedness.

Methods

Databases: PubMed, Scopus, and Web of Science
Search period: 2000-2026
Inclusion criteria: religious mass gatherings, communicable diseases, prevention, physical distancing, or health protocols, were published in Persian or English and reported human-health data.
Exclusion criteria: Studies unrelated to religious mass gatherings; addressing only engineering, geographic, urban, security, transport, or infrastructure issues; review articles, non-research reports, editorials, commentaries, letters, and conference abstracts; duplicate or overlapping studies or without extractable health outcomes.
A total of 29 studies met the eligibility criteria and were included. Records were screened by title, abstract, and full text. Relevant data were extracted, categorized, and synthesized.

Findings

Most studies concerned the Hajj, followed by Umrah, Arbaeen, and other religious gatherings, some during the COVID-19 pandemic.



Conclusion

Management of respiratory infections requires continuous risk assessment, preventive measures, healthcare preparedness, and surveillance to reduce adverse health outcomes among pilgrims and host communities.

References

1. Al-Shaery AM, Hejase B, Tridane A, Farooqi NS, Jassmi HA. Agent-Based Modeling of the Hajj Rituals with the Possible Spread of COVID-19. Sustainability. 2021;13(12):6923.
2. Alsayed SM, Alandijany TA, El-Kafrawy SA, Hassan AM, Bajrai LH, Faizo AA, et al. Pattern of Respiratory Viruses among Pilgrims during 2019 Hajj Season Who Sought Healthcare Due to Severe Respiratory Symptoms. Pathogens. 2021;10(3).
3. Hsu CY, Chen YM, Su CW, Ku MS, Kim Y, Jensen T, et al. Preparedness for containing COVID-19 outbreak in mass religious gathering with non-pharmaceutical interventions (NPIs). J Formos Med Assoc. 2021;120 Suppl 1:S57-s68.