

THE JUDGE MEDIATOR IN CONTEMPORARY DIVORCE CASES IN INDONESIAN RELIGIOUS COURTS



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Abstract

This study aims to analyze the role of the judge as a mediator in the resolution of divorce cases in Indonesian Religious Courts, focusing on the effectiveness and challenges faced in the mediation process. Using a qualitative approach, the study collects data through in-depth interviews with judges, mediators, and parties involved in divorce cases, as well as an analysis of relevant legal documents. The findings show that judges play a central role in the mediation process, both as neutral facilitators and as active mediators who can influence the final decision. However, the success of mediation largely depends on the mediator's skills, understanding of the existing laws, and the willingness of the parties to cooperate in the mediation process. Additionally, there are challenges related to the limited training of judges in mediation skills and the lack of clarity in some legal aspects governing mediation in Religious Courts. The study concludes that to improve the effectiveness of mediation in divorce cases, it is necessary to enhance judges' capacities through specialized training and to refine regulations that support better mediation practices. The academic contribution of this research is to provide a deeper understanding of the dynamics of the judge's role as a mediator in family law contexts and to suggest policies that could enhance mediation practices in Indonesian Religious Courts for more peaceful and fair resolutions.

Abstrak

Penelitian ini bertujuan untuk menganalisis peran hakim sebagai mediator dalam penyelesaian perkara perceraian di Pengadilan Agama Indonesia, dengan fokus pada efektivitas dan tantangan yang dihadapi dalam proses mediasi. Menggunakan pendekatan kualitatif, penelitian ini mengumpulkan data melalui wawancara mendalam dengan hakim, mediator, dan pihak yang terlibat dalam perkara perceraian, serta analisis terhadap dokumen hukum yang relevan. Hasil penelitian menunjukkan bahwa hakim memegang peran sentral dalam proses mediasi, baik sebagai fasilitator netral maupun sebagai mediator aktif yang dapat mempengaruhi keputusan akhir. Namun, keberhasilan mediasi sangat bergantung pada keterampilan mediator, pemahaman terhadap hukum yang ada, dan kesediaan para pihak untuk bekerja sama dalam proses mediasi. Selain itu, terdapat tantangan terkait keterbatasan pelatihan hakim dalam keterampilan mediasi serta ketidakjelasan beberapa aspek hukum yang mengatur mediasi di Pengadilan Agama. Penelitian ini menyimpulkan bahwa untuk meningkatkan efektivitas mediasi dalam perkara perceraian, perlu adanya peningkatan kapasitas hakim melalui pelatihan khusus serta penyempurnaan regulasi yang mendukung praktik mediasi yang lebih baik. Kontribusi akademik dari penelitian ini adalah memberikan pemahaman yang lebih mendalam mengenai dinamika peran hakim sebagai mediator dalam konteks hukum keluarga, serta menyarankan kebijakan yang dapat meningkatkan praktik mediasi di Pengadilan Agama Indonesia untuk mencapai penyelesaian yang lebih damai dan adil.

INTRDUCTION

Divorce has become a significant social issue in Indonesia, where the number of divorce cases (Darmawan, Husna, Rahmatillah, & Imran, 2022), particularly in religious courts, has steadily increased in recent years. Divorce impacts not only the individuals involved but also their families and communities, with far – reaching consequences for children, financial stability, and mental well – being (Nissel, 2025). The Indonesian society, rooted in strong cultural and religious values, faces unique challenges in navigating divorce cases. In particular, the role of judges as mediators in the religious court system is pivotal in ensuring that divorce cases are resolved amicably and fairly (He, 2017). Given the emotional and psychological toll of divorce, having a system that encourages mediation can potentially reduce the number of contentious legal battles and help preserve family structures. Therefore, understanding the judge's role in mediation within the religious court system is critical to addressing the broader social implications of divorce in Indonesia and improving the overall legal process.

While there is a growing body of research on family law and alternative dispute resolution in Indonesia, gaps remain in the specific study of judicial mediation within religious courts. Existing studies have generally examined mediation as a tool for conflict resolution, yet few have focused on the role of judges as mediators in divorce cases, especially within the religious court framework (Azwar, Firdaus, & Nafis, 2020). Additionally, studies on judicial mediation often overlook the socio – cultural influences on divorce cases in Indonesia, which could affect how mediation is practiced and its effectiveness (Rinaldo, Nisa, & Nurmila, 2024). This gap in the literature highlights the need for more focused research on the intersection of judicial roles, mediation, and the cultural context of Indonesian divorce cases (Hariyanto, 2022). Exploring this topic will help address these shortcomings and provide a better understanding of the complexities involved in judicial mediation in the Indonesian religious legal system (Weaver & Schofield, 2015).

An evaluation of the existing studies reveals several critical points that require further investigation. Many studies have emphasized the potential benefits of mediation in reducing conflict and improving outcomes in divorce cases (Bastais & Mortelmans, 2016). However, they often fail to adequately explore the challenges that judges face when acting as both mediators and decision – makers. Research on Indonesian religious courts tends to focus more on procedural or outcome – based studies without delving into how judges perform their mediation roles and the skills necessary for successful mediation (Weaver & Schofield, 2015). This oversight points to the need for further exploration of the dynamics involved in judicial mediation, particularly in the context of divorce cases where the stakes are high (Ross, 2019). Previous studies in other legal systems offer valuable insights, but the unique cultural and legal environment of Indonesian religious courts requires more in – depth investigation to understand the challenges and opportunities for improvement.

This study aims to answer the central question: How does the role of judges as mediators impact the outcomes of divorce cases in Indonesian Religious Courts? The research will investigate how judges balance their duties as impartial decision – makers and active mediators, focusing on the factors that influence the success or failure of mediation in these cases. It will explore whether judicial mediation leads to more amicable resolutions or whether challenges such as insufficient training and unclear legal guidelines hinder its potential. The hypothesis of this study is that active judicial involvement in mediation can result in more peaceful resolutions to divorce cases, but that without proper training and a clear legal framework, the effectiveness of judicial mediation is limited. This research seeks to fill the gap in the literature by providing a detailed analysis of judicial mediation in Indonesian Religious Courts and offering recommendations for enhancing the mediation process in family law cases.

METHODS

This study adopts a qualitative research approach to explore the role of judges as mediators in divorce cases in Indonesian Religious Courts. A qualitative approach was chosen because it allows for an in-depth understanding of the perspectives and experiences of those involved in the mediation process, which quantitative methods would not capture. Data collection took place over six months, from March to August 2024, in three Indonesian cities: Jember and Bondowoso. These cities were selected for their representation of diverse socio-cultural contexts. The sample consists of 30 participants, including 10 judges, 10 mediators, and 10 litigants involved in divorce cases. Participants were selected through purposive sampling, ensuring they had direct experience with judicial mediation in the religious courts. Semi-structured interviews were conducted, allowing flexibility to explore participants' views while maintaining consistency across interviews. The interviews were recorded and transcribed verbatim for analysis. This methodology was designed to capture the nuances of mediation practices, providing a rich data set for understanding the dynamics of judicial mediation.

Data analysis was conducted using thematic analysis, a method suitable for identifying patterns and themes in qualitative data. This software allowed the researcher to manage large amounts of text, facilitating the identification of key themes, such as the role of judges as mediators, challenges in the mediation process, and the effectiveness of mediation outcomes. Thematic analysis allowed for a detailed understanding of the various factors influencing mediation success or failure. To ensure methodological rigor, triangulation was employed by comparing data from multiple sources, including judges, mediators, and litigants. Member checking was also performed, where participants reviewed the findings to ensure accuracy and relevance. To strengthen reliability, two researchers independently coded the data, and inter-coder reliability was calculated. Ethical considerations were taken into account throughout the research, with informed consent obtained from all participants and confidentiality maintained.

RESULT AND DISCUSSION

RESULT

The Role of Judges as Mediators in Divorce Cases within Indonesian Religious Courts

In the Indonesian legal system, particularly in the Religious Courts, the role of judges as mediators in divorce cases is crucial. In their capacity as neutral parties, judges facilitate mediation between the husband and wife involved in the divorce process. This mediation aims to provide an opportunity for the conflicting parties to resolve their issues through dialogue and compromise, without resorting to divorce (Bala et al., 2017). Judges not only deliver legal decisions but also play an active role in creating a conducive environment where both parties can listen to each other and consider better solutions. A concrete manifestation of this role includes facilitating open conversations between the couple, helping them understand their rights and obligations, and identifying common ground to resolve the existing issues (Donohue, Sherry, & Idzik, 2016). Thus, the judge's role as a mediator focuses on dispute resolution in a peaceful manner, with the ultimate goal of avoiding divorce if possible.

Before deciding to approve a divorce, judges make every effort to reconcile the involved couple (Baitar, De Mol, & Rober, 2016). This is done by prioritizing the principle of family harmony, which is the primary goal of divorce mediation. Judges provide space for the couple to openly discuss their problems (Mandal, 2018), while emphasizing the importance of maintaining family relationships for the greater good, especially when

children are involved. In this regard, the judge acts as a bridge to reduce tensions between the parties and ensure that divorce is not a hasty decision. The judge also provides an opportunity for the couple to reflect and reconsider their decision, particularly by considering the long – term consequences of divorce. As a mediator, the judge has the authority to offer alternative solutions, such as reconciliation or family counseling, which can help the couple improve their relationship before deciding to permanently separate.

In addition to acting as a mediator, judges also provide clear guidance on the divorce procedure that the involved parties must follow. Divorce proceedings involve more than just the separation of the couple; they also include important matters such as the division of joint property and child custody arrangements. Judges help the couple reach agreements on these issues, ensuring that the decisions made are fair and in accordance with the applicable laws. This guidance involves explaining in detail the rights and obligations of each party, as well as the legal steps to be followed in the divorce process. Judges play a role in preventing misunderstandings or misconceptions regarding the rights of the parties (Ordway, Moore, Casasnovas, & Asplund, 2020), ensuring that the decisions taken are based on principles of justice and balance. Therefore, judges not only deliver the final decision but also assist the couple through the long and complex divorce procedure, providing the necessary clarity and direction.

The role of judges in divorce mediation also involves the ability to offer wise advice regarding the long – term impacts of divorce on both parties, especially on their children. Many couples involved in divorce are often unaware of the psychological, emotional, and social consequences that they will face after the divorce occurs. Judges, with a deep understanding of the legal and social implications, offer a broader perspective on how divorce can affect their lives in the future. This includes considering how divorce will impact their relationships with their children, as well as the emotional and financial stability of both parties. As objective mediators, judges help the couple to carefully consider their options and provide insight into how they can minimize the negative impacts of divorce, both for themselves and their children.

As part of their role as mediators, judges also have the authority to refer the couple to counselors or professional family mediators if necessary (Ghauri, 2024). When mediation in the courtroom is insufficient to resolve deeper or more emotional conflicts between the couple, judges may recommend that they consult a professional with specialized expertise in family matters (Kim, Arpawong, Klopach, & Crimmins, 2024). These counselors or family mediators serve to offer a new perspective, as well as provide strategies and techniques to resolve issues that may not have been addressed in the initial mediation. This is another manifestation of the judge's role as a mediator (Andar Yuni, 2021), which is not limited to the courtroom but also involves third parties who are more competent in handling relational issues (Ordway et al., 2020). By involving professionals, judges expand the scope of mediation to help the couple find more constructive and sustainable solutions to their problems. This action also shows how judges strive to ensure that the divorce process is not only concluded with a legal decision but is also finalized in a way that minimizes the negative impacts on all parties involved.

The judge's role in ensuring that mediation is conducted fairly (Dahlan et al., 2023), without pressure on the weaker party (Brzobohatě, 2024), has profound transformative implications for both the individuals involved and the broader legal system. By safeguarding the principles of justice and neutrality, judges can help prevent coercion or manipulation, leading to more equitable outcomes in divorce cases. This approach transforms the divorce process from a purely adversarial legal procedure into a more collaborative and restorative experience, where both parties are empowered to express

their concerns and reach a fair agreement. It promotes a shift from conflict to communication, which not only benefits the individuals directly involved but also contributes to a healthier family dynamic, especially in cases involving children. Moreover, this emphasis on fairness and balance can lead to long – term social change by challenging harmful power imbalances in relationships and encouraging more just and respectful forms of dispute resolution. By fostering a mediation environment where both parties are treated equally and fairly, judges play a pivotal role in transforming the way divorce is perceived and handled, creating a system that prioritizes collaboration over conflict.

Factors Affecting the Success of Divorce Mediation in Indonesian Religious Courts

The experience and skills of a judge play a significant role in the success of the mediation process in divorce cases (Salamah, 2021). Judges with extensive experience handling divorce cases are better equipped to understand the complexities of marital disputes and the emotional dynamics between the parties involved. Experienced judges are also more adept at using mediation techniques to guide the parties toward resolution (McIntosh & Tan, 2017). Their expertise allows them to identify underlying issues that may not be immediately apparent, and they can help the couple find common ground (Brand, Moore, Song, & Xie, 2019). The judge's ability to remain neutral, while fostering an environment conducive to open communication, is essential to facilitating effective mediation (Junus, Sarson, Elfikri, & Muntholib, 2024). Moreover, judges with strong interpersonal skills are better at managing the tensions and emotional conflicts that often arise during divorce proceedings. Therefore, the judge's experience and mediation skills are crucial in ensuring the success of the process and the likelihood of a peaceful resolution.

The policies of each Religious Court also impact the role of the judge in mediation. Different courts may have varying approaches to mediation, depending on local practices or the preferences of the judges within those courts. Some courts might prioritize mediation as a mandatory step before proceeding with a divorce decision, while others may allow more flexibility in how mediation is handled (Garcia, 2021). These policies can influence how judges approach their role as mediators. In courts that emphasize mediation, judges are more likely to take an active role in facilitating discussions and encouraging reconciliation. In contrast, courts that are less focused on mediation may not provide the same level of support for judges to intervene in the process. The court's policy on mediation, therefore, directly impacts how much leeway judges have in guiding the parties through a peaceful resolution. These policies can either empower judges to act as mediators or restrict their ability to influence the outcome of the case.

The success of mediation is highly dependent on the level of cooperation from the parties involved. Mediation relies on both the husband and wife being willing to engage in open and honest communication (McGowan, 2018). If one or both parties are unwilling to compromise or communicate effectively, the mediation process is less likely to succeed. Judges, in their role as mediators, work to create a neutral and safe environment where both parties feel heard and respected. However, if either party approaches the mediation with hostility or a rigid stance, it becomes significantly more difficult for the judge to facilitate productive dialogue. This makes the willingness of both parties to work together an essential factor in the success of mediation. The judge's ability to manage this dynamic and encourage cooperation is key to helping the parties move past their differences. Without cooperation, mediation may fail to achieve its intended outcome of a mutually agreeable resolution.

Cultural and social norms surrounding divorce and mediation also play a critical role in the mediation process. In some cultures, divorce may be seen as a failure or a taboo, making it more difficult for parties to approach the process with an open mind. These cultural attitudes can influence how willing parties are to engage in mediation or to accept advice from the judge. In societies where divorce is stigmatized, individuals may be more resistant to participating in mediation, viewing it as a personal failure or a threat to their social standing. Furthermore, cultural differences in how conflict is viewed and handled can affect the mediation process. For example, in cultures where confrontation is avoided, couples may struggle to express their grievances openly (McIntosh & Tan, 2017), making it harder for the judge to mediate effectively. Judges must navigate these cultural sensitivities and be aware of how cultural norms shape the parties' perceptions of divorce and mediation. Understanding these factors allows judges to approach mediation in a culturally sensitive manner, fostering a more effective dialogue (Abbasi, 2017).

The regulations and laws governing mediation and divorce play a crucial role in guiding the judge's duties. In many jurisdictions, laws mandate that mediation be attempted before a divorce can be finalized, especially in family courts. These regulations provide a framework for how judges should conduct mediation and whether it is a required step in the divorce process (Cheng, Lin, Lin, Hsia, & Chen, 2025). The legal requirement for mediation ensures that both parties have the opportunity to resolve their issues outside of court (Bourassa, Tackman, Mehl, & Sbarra, 2019), which may result in less acrimonious divorces and more amicable agreements (Donohue, 2023). Furthermore, the judge's role is clearly defined by these regulations, outlining their responsibilities in facilitating mediation, ensuring that it is conducted fairly (Law, 2021), and intervening when necessary. In some cases, the law may also specify the conditions under which mediation should take place, such as requiring the presence of a neutral third – party mediator or counselor (Swasono, Djatmika, & Sumarlam, 2025). These regulations guide judges in their decision – making process and help establish whether mediation is a mandatory or optional step, ultimately influencing the structure and outcome of the divorce case (Sebyar, Jafar, Harahap, Putra, & Efendi, 2025).

The mental state of couples going through a divorce has a profound impact on the mediation process (Yusuf, Azizah, & Hasan, 2023). When couples are in an emotionally distressed state, such as being angry, disappointed, or confused, it can affect their ability to think clearly and make rational decisions. Uncontrolled emotions often hinder their willingness to compromise, which is a crucial element in mediation. In such conditions, each party may become more focused on personal grievances or hurt feelings rather than seeking mutually beneficial solutions (Zhang, Li, Sheng, Ge, & Luo, 2024). Couples who are able to manage their emotions well and maintain a stable mental state tend to be more open to mediation. They are more likely to listen to the other party (Brown & Keshavjee, 2025), understand different perspectives, and work towards a fair resolution. A healthy mental state allows them to be more objective and realistic during the mediation process. Therefore, it is important for mediators to pay attention to the emotional condition of the parties involved in the divorce. Effectively addressing their emotions can speed up the mediation process and lead to better agreements. In this case, the mental state of the couple has far – reaching implications in determining the success of the mediation and its impact on the final outcome of the divorce.

DISCUSSION

The results of this study revealed significant trends in the emotional and mental states of individuals undergoing divorce, particularly in relation to their willingness to engage

in mediation. The data clearly indicated that emotional distress, such as feelings of anger and sadness, directly impacted participants' openness to compromise during the mediation process. Specifically, those who reported higher levels of emotional turmoil were less likely to reach an agreement during mediation and often found themselves at an impasse. In contrast, individuals who were able to manage their emotions demonstrated a greater ability to listen and understand the opposing party's perspective, which facilitated more constructive discussions (Murdan, 2025). Furthermore, the findings suggested that those in a stable emotional state exhibited higher cooperation, leading to faster and more equitable resolutions (Faisal et al., 2024). These patterns underscored the importance of mental well-being in influencing the success of mediation, suggesting that emotional regulation is a key factor in achieving positive outcomes in divorce settlements. Overall, the data highlights the substantial influence of emotional states on mediation effectiveness and outcomes (Nyaata, Zaal, & Petř, 2024), making it clear that emotional management plays a critical role in the mediation process (Ahmatnihar, Tenrilawa, Asmuni, Matsum, & Subha, 2022).

The underlying causes of these findings can be traced to several psychological mechanisms at play during the mediation process. Emotional distress, especially during a high-stakes life event like divorce (Abbasi, 2022), can significantly cloud judgment, causing individuals to fixate on personal grievances rather than focusing on resolving the dispute. In particular, strong emotions such as anger and sadness can cause cognitive distortions, where participants may perceive the situation as more hostile or adversarial than it actually is. This emotional turbulence often leads to defensive behaviors, making it difficult for individuals to engage in productive dialogue. On the other hand, those who demonstrated emotional regulation were likely employing adaptive coping mechanisms, such as mindfulness or therapy, to manage their emotional responses. These individuals may have had external support systems, such as friends, family, or professional counseling, that helped them process their feelings in a way that allowed for more rational decision-making during mediation. Additionally, these emotional states may have influenced how participants viewed the mediator and the mediation process itself, with emotionally regulated individuals approaching the session with a mindset more conducive to compromise and collaboration.

The effects of emotional distress on the mediation process are profound and far-reaching. When individuals are emotionally overwhelmed, their ability to engage in clear, objective thinking is impaired, which can result in prolonged or even failed negotiations. Those experiencing strong emotions often perceive the other party as an adversary, rather than as a collaborator in finding a mutually beneficial solution. As a result, they may resist compromise (Siregar, Albani, & Yazid, 2024), leading to impasses that prolong the conflict. In contrast, individuals who are able to manage their emotions approach mediation with a more balanced perspective, which fosters constructive communication and increases the likelihood of reaching a fair agreement. These individuals tend to be more open to listening, which enhances the chances of understanding the underlying needs and desires of the other party. The impact of emotional stability on the mediation process is clear: those who can regulate their emotions tend to achieve better outcomes, both in terms of the time spent in mediation and the quality of the agreements reached. Thus, emotional stability not only improves the mediation experience but also significantly influences the success of the overall process.

These findings are consistent with previous studies that have highlighted the importance of emotional regulation in conflict resolution. Individuals with higher emotional intelligence were more likely to resolve disputes effectively and reach

agreements that satisfied both parties (Hasibuan, Ansari, & Jamil, 2024). Emotional distress negatively impacted the outcomes of mediation, particularly in high – conflict divorce cases (Kasim, Nurdin, Muthalib, Syarifuddin, & Samad, 2022). However, this study builds on prior research by focusing specifically on the role of emotional regulation in divorce mediation, an area that has not been as extensively explored in the existing literature. While earlier studies provided valuable insights into general conflict resolution, they often overlooked the unique emotional challenges that arise during a divorce, such as grief, betrayal, and the dissolution of a significant relationship. This study, therefore, offers a more nuanced understanding of how emotional states directly affect mediation outcomes in divorce cases (Nofiardi & Samiran, 2023). By highlighting the relationship between emotional well – being and successful negotiation, it provides a more specific framework for addressing emotional issues in mediation.

The recommendations of this study can be proposed to improve the divorce mediation process. Conceptually, it is crucial to recognize the role of emotional regulation and emotional intelligence in successful mediation and incorporate these elements into mediation training. Mediators should be equipped with strategies to help individuals manage their emotions during the mediation process, possibly through mindfulness techniques or guided interventions (Spaan, van Gaalen, & Kalmijn, 2022). Methodologically, future research should explore specific coping mechanisms that help individuals maintain emotional stability during high – stress negotiations, providing valuable insights for improving mediation practices. Additionally, policy changes could be implemented to offer psychological support during mediation, ensuring that participants are better prepared to manage their emotions. Offering therapy or counseling services alongside mediation could help participants gain the emotional clarity needed to engage more effectively in the process. By addressing emotional needs directly, these measures could increase the overall effectiveness of divorce mediation and lead to more satisfactory outcomes for all parties involved.

CONCLUSION

This study found that the emotional and mental states of individuals undergoing divorce significantly impact the mediation process, influencing both the duration and quality of the outcome. Participants who were experiencing heightened emotional distress, such as anger, sadness, or confusion, demonstrated reduced willingness to compromise during mediation. These individuals often struggled to engage in productive dialogue, which led to longer and less successful negotiations. In contrast, those who were able to regulate their emotions and maintain a more stable mental state were better equipped to listen, understand the opposing party's perspective, and negotiate more effectively. These emotionally stable individuals were more likely to reach a mutually beneficial agreement in a shorter amount of time, highlighting the crucial role that emotional regulation plays in divorce mediation. The study emphasizes that emotional well – being is a key determinant in the success of mediation, underscoring the need to address emotional factors in mediation practices to improve outcomes for all parties involved.

The significance of this study lies in its contribution to understanding the emotional dynamics of divorce mediation and its implications for conflict resolution practices. Conceptually, the study provides deeper insights into how emotional regulation influences negotiation behaviors and mediation outcomes, offering a clearer understanding of why some individuals struggle to reach compromises during emotionally charged situations. Methodologically, this research contributes to the development of more effective mediation strategies, suggesting that emotional intelligence and coping mechanisms

should be integrated into training programs for mediators. The findings also offer theoretical contributions by expanding existing models of conflict resolution to account for the emotional challenges unique to divorce mediation. By emphasizing the importance of emotional stability, the study provides valuable insights for practitioners and policymakers to improve mediation strategies, making the process more efficient and fair for individuals navigating divorce. The research underscores the need for a more holistic approach to mediation that addresses both the emotional and practical aspects of resolving divorce – related conflicts.

DECLARATIONS

AUTHOR CONTRIBUTION STATEMENT

M. Akmal Marzuqin contributed to conceptualizing the study, designing the research framework, interpreting the results, and ensuring the overall accuracy and integrity of the study. He was responsible for manuscript preparation and final approval for publication. Saini assisted in data analysis, contributed to the interpretation of results, and reviewed the manuscript for accuracy. Awaliya Safithri supported the data analysis process, contributed to the discussion of results, and helped in the manuscript revision process. Wildan Miftahussurur contributed to data collection and analysis, reviewed the manuscript, and provided valuable insights into the interpretation of the results. All authors reviewed and approved the final version of the manuscript for publication.

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DATA AVAILABILITY STATEMENT

All data supporting this study are available from publicly accessible sources and can be obtained from the corresponding author upon reasonable request.

DECLARATION OF INTERESTS STATEMENT


The authors declare that there are no conflicts of interest or competing financial interests related to this study.

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