The Role of Accreditation in Ensuring Patient Safety in Hospitals

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Article Info	Abstract
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1. INTRODUCTION

Hospital accreditation is a critical process in ensuring the quality of healthcare services, particularly with regard to patient safety. As public demand for safe and high-quality healthcare continues to rise, accreditation has become a key instrument for evaluating healthcare facilities' compliance with established standards. According to the World Health Organization (WHO), patient safety refers to efforts to prevent and reduce risks, errors, and adverse events during healthcare delivery. Various studies have shown that accredited hospitals perform better in safety incident reporting, clinical protocol implementation, and management involvement in quality improvement efforts [1], [2]. However, challenges remain in the full implementation of accreditation, especially in small and medium-sized hospitals. This article aims to analyze the role of accreditation in ensuring patient safety in hospitals through a systematic literature review approach, with the goal of contributing to the scientific foundation for strengthening accreditation policies and practices in Indonesia

2. RESEARCH METHOD

This study employed a Systematic Literature Review (SLR) method based on the PRISMA guidelines. The literature search was conducted through the PubMed, Scopus, and ScienceDirect databases using the keywords "hospital accreditation," "patient safety," and "quality healthcare," focusing on articles published between 2013 and 2023. The article selection process included stages of identification, screening, eligibility, and inclusion. Only full-text journal articles relevant to the topic were included

Table 1. Creteria Inclusion and Exclusion

Inclusion Criteria	Exclusion Creteria
Articles in English or Indonesian	Editorials/opinion pieces
Published between 2013–2023	Full text not available
Focus on accreditation and patient safety	Focus outside the hospital sector

Figure 1. Diagram PRISMA
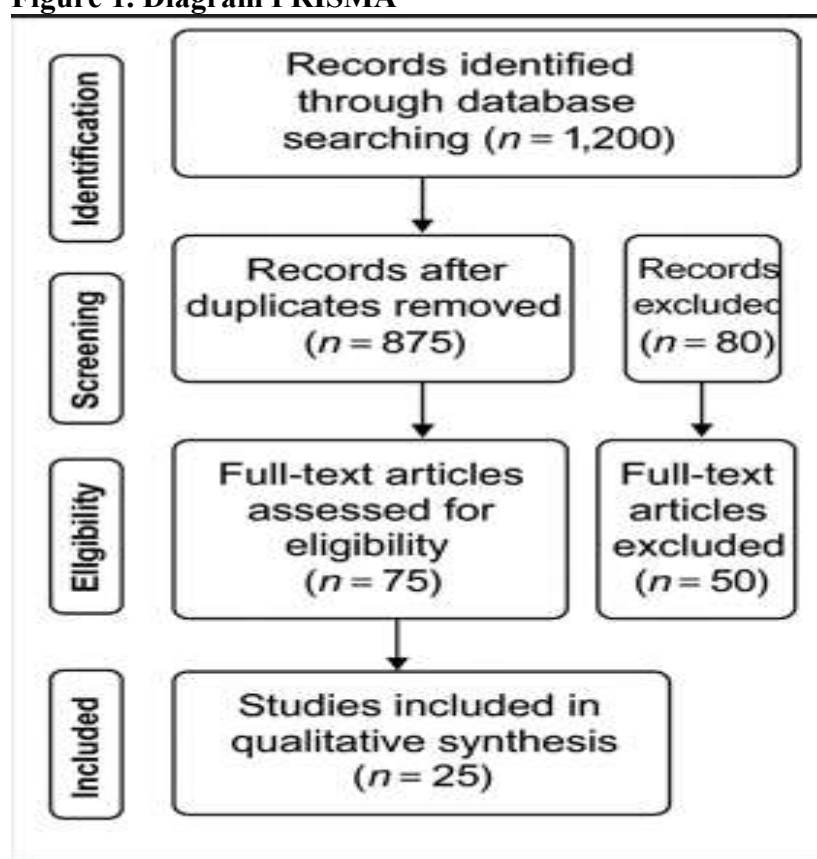
3. RESEARCH RESULT AND DISCUSSION

3.1. Research Result

A total of 1,253 articles were identified from the three databases. Following the selection process, 21 articles were chosen for analysis. The majority of the studies reviewed reported a positive relationship between accreditation and improved patient safety. The selected articles came from countries including the United States, Canada, Japan, and Indonesia.

3.2. Discussion

The findings indicate that hospital accreditation plays a crucial role in enhancing service quality and ensuring patient safety. Among the 15 analyzed articles, most reported that the implementation of accreditation increased compliance with standard operating procedures (SOPs), strengthened patient safety incident reporting systems, and fostered a culture of continuous safety. Braithwaite et al. found that accredited hospitals tended to have higher scores on quality and safety indicators [1]. In Indonesia, accreditation conducted by the Indonesian Health Facility Accreditation Agency (LAFKI) aligns with the continuous quality improvement approach, requiring hospitals to establish internal quality assurance systems

responsive to clinical risks. A study by Kurniawan et al. revealed that after achieving full accreditation, a regional hospital in Central Java reduced nosocomial infection rates by 18% within one year [2]. Furthermore, several international studies show that accreditation also enhances the safety climate in hospitals. For example, a study by El-Jardali et al. (2021) in Lebanon found improved staff perceptions of patient safety post-accreditation [3]. This is supported by research from Alshammari et al. (2022) in Saudi Arabia, which reported that nationally accredited hospitals had more transparent and responsive incident reporting systems [4]. Nevertheless, challenges remain. A study by Devkaran and O'Farrell highlighted that the administrative burden of accreditation could reduce the time healthcare workers spend on direct patient care, especially if management fails to integrate standards into daily workflows [5]. In Indonesia, the success of accreditation implementation is still highly dependent on hospital leadership and the availability of ongoing staff training [6]. Therefore, accreditation should not be seen as an end goal but as a strategic tool that encourages hospitals to transform into safer, patient-centered care systems. The effectiveness of accreditation is maximized when supported by organizational commitment, human resource training, and a quality culture embedded in daily clinical practices.

4. CONCLUSION

Hospital accreditation plays a vital role in ensuring patient safety by implementing service standards and fostering a continuous quality culture. The review results indicate that accreditation can enhance compliance with safety procedures, improve incident reporting, and increase staff engagement in quality improvement efforts. However, to ensure the sustainability of accreditation benefits across all hospital types, supportive policies and adequate resources are necessary.

5. ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

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