

Abstract

Aim

The aim of this research was to sound the need for an Islamic hospital amongst Muslims in the Netherlands and the contexts of this need.

Context

In September 2006 bulletins in the newspaper and on the news appeared as a result of a plan of Paul Sturkenboom. If the insurers agree, over two years the first Islamic hospital of Europe will stand in Rotterdam. The emphasis will lie on the policlinic and the day treatment and the Islamic context and values will be observed. One of the characteristics of the hospital is separated departments for men and women. Furthermore men will be treated by male doctors and women by female doctors. Where it will strive further for, is halal feeding and administering Islamic medicines and herbs to the patients.

The coming of an Islamic hospital can be a step direction the Islamic denominationalism. But examine appears that Islam is also under pressure of the process of secularization. In this research it has been examined to what extent these judgements are correct.

Methods

Qualitative investigation has been conducted. The data has been collected using semi-structured interviews. The interview has been kept amongst eight Moroccan, eight Turkish and eight Surinam people. Also postings have been placed on a Moroccan, Turkish and Surinam forum. With the obtained dates from the interview and forum responses an analysis has been done and these have been processed in the results.

Results

The picture of an Islamic hospital given by Paul Sturkenboom corresponds mainly to the picture which Muslims have of an Islamic hospital. Separated departments for men and women and separated staff is raised as of the most important characteristics of an Islamic hospital. The context variables ethnic origin, age, level of education and employment have no influence on the choice of the respondents in this research. However, of influence on the choice for an Islamic hospital migration have been generation, sex and the degree of practise. The idea exist that language is also of influence, but this has not been clearly confirmed in this research.

Conclusion

There is need for an Islamic hospital amongst Muslims in the Netherlands. The majority of the respondents is positive concerning the initiative. The respondents have indicated that they want to visit an Islamic hospital, provided that the hospital is not too far. In spite of the rising secularization amongst the Muslims there is a need for a religious hospital. Choosing an Islamic hospital is influenced by a number of context variables such as migration generation, sex and the degree of to practise.