



Mapping the Social Geography of Early Marriage: Regional Vulnerability, Family Networks, and Cultural Persistence in Indonesia

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ABSTRACT

Early marriage is a multidimensional issue linked to education, poverty, health, gender equality, child protection, and the quality of human resources. Although various policies have been developed to curb the practice of child marriage, it still occurs in various regions of Indonesia with different social, economic, cultural, and geographic characteristics. This study aims to analyze the factors contributing to the persistence of early marriage in Indonesia and to identify the characteristics of regions that are vulnerable to this practice. The study employs a qualitative meta-synthesis approach supported by a comparative analysis of previous research findings. The literature was searched through the academic databases Scopus, SINTA, Copernicus, and Web of Science, covering publications from 2020 to 2025. A total of 50 articles that met the relevance criteria were analyzed based on determining factors, socioeconomic characteristics, educational conditions, family environment, sociocultural norms, and the regional context where early marriage occurs. The results of the synthesis indicate that early marriage is not caused by a single factor but is the result of an interaction between educational limitations, poverty, family economic conditions, sociocultural norms, gender constructs, the influence of family and peers, premarital pregnancy, and the development of the digital environment. Education and economic conditions are key factors.

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Introduction

Early marriage is one of the development issues related to education (Fitria et al., 2024; Khan et al., 2024), health (Jaraba et al., 2020; Ratnaningsih et al., 2022), poverty (Fatmawati et al., 2025; Susilo et al., 2021), gender equality, child protection (Al’Ghani et al., 2024), and the sustainability of human capital. Internationally, child marriage generally refers to a marriage or marital relationship that occurs before the age of 18. This issue is addressed in the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), specifically Target 5.3, which aims to eliminate all practices of child marriage, early marriage, and forced marriage (United Nations, 2015).

Although various countries have developed policies to raise the minimum age for marriage (Ebetürk, 2021), the practice of child marriage is still found in many regions (Al’Ghani et al., 2024; Anggreni et al., 2023; Khan et al., 2024; Yüksel-Kaptanoğlu &

[Ergöçmen, 2014](#)). A global systematic review indicates that education, employment, family circumstances, socioeconomic status, region of residence, religion, ethnicity, and access to media are factors associated with child marriage. Thus, early marriage cannot be understood as the result of a single factor.

In the Indonesian context, this complexity becomes even more significant due to the country's highly diverse regional characteristics. Differences between urban and rural areas, Java and outside Java, mainland and island regions, as well as coastal and non-coastal communities can create distinct social environments for adolescents ([Nugroho et al., 2022](#)). A study based on the Indonesian Family Life Survey reveals variations in child marriage rates across provinces and between urban and rural areas ([Ministry of Health, 2021](#)). The study's analysis found that the rate of marriage before the age of 18 was higher in rural areas than in urban areas.

Findings at the regional level also show that child marriage is not randomly distributed. Research on Sulawesi reveals spatial patterns across districts and cities and finds correlations with the average length of schooling for girls, welfare conditions, rural characteristics, school availability, and per capita expenditure for women ([Fatmawati et al., 2025](#)). In South Sulawesi, socioeconomic characteristics also show significant differences across districts and cities; girls living in rural areas and coming from poor households are among the most vulnerable groups ([Ratnaningsih et al., 2022](#)).

However, most research on early marriage still focuses on identifying the causes of early marriage and interpreting the practice of early marriage. The research gap in this area lies in the broader questions: (1) Why does early marriage occur?; (2) What are the characteristics of the regions where early marriage occurs? These questions have not received equal attention. Yet, place is more than just geographic coordinates. Place is a space that encompasses economic structures, access to education, social norms, family networks, religion, culture, institutions, and life opportunities. Psaki et al. emphasize that the drivers of child marriage vary and interact with one another depending on specific social contexts; poverty and social norms can influence agency, opportunities, and concerns regarding pregnancy. This approach is expected to yield a more comprehensive understanding of the relationship between marriage decisions and place characteristics.

Methodology

Study Design

This study uses a Qualitative Meta-Synthesis approach supported by Comparative Quantitative Analysis (Meta-Review). This approach was chosen to synthesize findings from various empirical studies that have been selected and narrowed down based on several criteria ([Jasmine et al., 2024](#)). Meta-synthesis allows for the summarization of descriptive and qualitative research findings (determination of early marriage and areas/places of early marriage) ([Jasmine et al., 2024](#); [Paul & Barari, 2022](#)), as well as comparing quantitative data such as the prevalence and determinants of stigma in various study populations ([Adiansyah et al., 2023](#); [Maulidiah et al., 2024](#)).

Literature Search Strategy and Selection Criteria

A systematic search was conducted on leading academic databases, including Scopus, SINTA (Science and Technology Index), Copernicus, and Web of Science. The search strategy



focused on articles published in the last 5 years (2020–2025) and focused on the Indonesian context.

Strict Inclusion Criteria Applied:

1. Publications must be made between 2020 and 2025.
2. The main topic must focus on the determinants of early marriage and the geographical areas or locations where early marriage occurs.
3. The research population must focus on the application of learning at the high school level.
4. Studies must be indexed in Scopus, SINTA, or Copernicus.

Data were extracted from selected articles based on their titles, themes, authors, and reported findings regarding determinants (causal factors). The findings were then grouped according to the focus of the determinants (causal factors) and the location where early marriage occurred to facilitate an in-depth comparative analysis.

Result and Discussion

The results of this study are presented in a table which aims to provide a clear picture of the determinants of early marriage and the places where early marriage occurs.

Table 1. Data on the Determination of Early Marriage and the Place of Early Marriage

No.	Title	Author(s)	Year	Determinant Findings (Causal Factors)	Regional Context
1	Faktor-faktor yang memengaruhi pernikahan dini di Indonesia	Hermambang, A., Ummah, C., Gratia, E. S., Sanusi, F., Ulfa, W. M., & Nooraeni, R.	2021	Education, spouse, place of residence, sexual relations	Coastal area
2	COVID-19 and the surge of child marriages: A phenomenon in Nusa Tenggara Barat, Indonesia	Rahiem, M. D. H.	2021	Economic, cultural, family, peer, and COVID-19 factors	Rural area
3	One Household, Two Worlds: Differences of Perception Towards Child Marriage among Adolescent Children and Adults in Indonesia	Wibowo, H. R., Ratnaningsih, M., Goodwin, N. J., Ulum, D. F., & Minnick, E.	2021	Family perceptions and social norms	Urban area
4	Spatial Analysis of Prevalence of Early Marriage and HDI in Indonesia	Salsavira, S., Afifah, J., Mahendra, F. T., & Dzakiyah, L.	2021	Spatial factors, Human Development Index (HDI), education, and region	Mountainous area
5	Menekan Perkawinan Anak Melalui Keberpihakan Akses Perempuan di Indonesia	Purwaningtyas, K.	2021	Gender and women's access	Hilly area
6	Persamaan Syarat Usia Perkawinan sebagai Wujud Kesetaraan Gender dalam Meminimalisir Perkawinan Bawah Umur di Indonesia	Salim, E. F., Judiasih, S. D., & Yuanitasari, D.	2021	Gender, law, and minimum age	Lowland area



7	'Alasan Khawatir' pada Penetapan Hukum Dispensasi Kawin di Pengadilan Agama Batusangkar	Fadhli, A., & Warman, A. B.	2021	Parental concerns and norms	Island area
8	The Legal Protection Against Child Marriage in Indonesia	Aditya, R. I., & Waddington, L.	2021	Law and child protection	Indigenous community
9	Dampak Sosial Akibat Perkawinan Anak terhadap Kesejahteraan Masyarakat	Eleanora, F. N., Putri, A. H., & Saputra, R.	2021	Socioeconomic factors and education	Rural-coastal area
10	Factors Affecting Child Marriage in West Nusa Tenggara	Rofita, D., Makmun, I., Amilia, R., Lestari, C. I., & Sofiatun	2023	Social and family factors	Urban-coastal area
11	Child Marriage Acceptability Index (CMAI) as an essential indicator: an investigation in South and Central Sulawesi, Indonesia	Ratnaningsih, M., Wibowo, H. R., Goodwin, N. J., et al.	2022	Economy, bride price, gender, and sexual and gender-based violence (SGBV)	Multiple contexts
12	Child marriage: using the Indonesian family life survey to examine the lives of women and men who married at an early age	Cameron, L., Contreras Suarez, D., & Wiecekiewicz, S.	2023	Education, economy, and region	Multiple contexts
13	Perbandingan determinan perkawinan anak perempuan berdasarkan status kemiskinan di Provinsi Maluku Utara tahun 2019	Fitriyani, A., & Nasrudin	2023	Poverty, education, and rurality	Island area
14	Factors associated with child marriage during the COVID-19 pandemic in Indonesia	Liem, A., Julianto, V., Kamsi, et al.	2024	Poverty, unemployment, divorce, and COVID-19	Multiple contexts
15	Prevalence of and factors associated with female child marriage in Indonesia	Kuswanto, H., Oktaviana, P. P., Efendi, F., Nelwati, & Malini, H.	2024	Education, wealth, occupation, and region	Multiple contexts
16	Pengaruh Pendidikan terhadap Pernikahan Anak Perempuan: Evaluasi Dampak Program Bantuan Siswa Miskin di Indonesia	Suci, U. L. E., & Sulistyaningrum, E.	2024	Education and poverty	Multiple contexts
17	Faktor Sosial Ekonomi Dalam Perkawinan Anak di Sulawesi Selatan	Putri, N. D.	2022	Poverty, education, and rurality	Rural area
18	Studi tentang Perkawinan Anak di Bawah Umur di Kecamatan Lilirilau Kabupaten Soppeng	Tahir, H., Sailan, M., & Nurfadilla, P.	2023	Local determinants	Rural area
19	Faktor-Faktor Penyebab Terjadinya Pernikahan Dini di Kota Medan	Munandar, I. M., Hamdani, M. F., & Zulkarnain, Z.	2023	Economic, social, and cultural factors	Urban area



20	Faktor Penyebab dan Dampak Psikologis Pernikahan Anak: Studi Kasus UPTD PPA Lombok Timur	Hasmi, N.	2022	Premarital pregnancy, economic factors, peer relationships, and social media	Rural area
21	Social Capital in Social Construction: In-Depth Investigation of Early Marriages in Bawean Island, Indonesia	Zulfi Al'Ghani, M., Budijanto, Sumarmi, & Susilo, S.	2024	Social capital and social construction	Island area
22	Determinants of Child Marriage in Indonesia: A Systematic Review	Ayudiputri, Z. Z., Nur, A. A., Amanda, S., & Hanifa, F. F.	2024	Determinants of child marriage in Indonesia	Multiple contexts
23	Analisis Mendalam Faktor-Faktor Penyebab Pernikahan Dini di Indonesia	Dewi, A. P., Hartati, N. D., Alfiana, S., Maulida, S., & Siregar, Y. E. Y.	2024	Economic factors and education	Multiple contexts
24	Perkawinan Anak Usia Dini dalam Perspektif UU No.16 Tahun 2019 dan Hak Asasi Manusia di Kabupaten Soppeng	Sari, N., Haris, H., & Khaer, N.	2024	Soppeng, legal, and social factors	Rural area
25	Changes in Marriage Age Limits and Marriage Dispensations: A Study of Causes and Impacts on the Religious Courts in North Sulawesi	Mursyid, S., & Yusuf, N.	2022	Marriage dispensation and causal factors	Rural area
26	Studi mengenai peningkatan dispensasi perkawinan anak di Jawa Tengah selama pandemi	Supriyadi & Suriyati	2022	Pandemic and marriage dispensation	Rural area
27	Legal Policy of Child Marriage in the Covid-19 Pandemic Period	Subchi, I., Arsadani, Q., Helmi, M. I., & Faridho, E.	2021	Pandemic and policy	Multiple contexts
28	Efforts to Prevent Child Age Marriage in The Study of Islamic Legal Philosophy and Indonesia Positive Law	Amberi, M.	2023	Religious norms and law	Rural area
29	Revealing the Dilemma of Marriage Dispensation Regulations in Indonesia	Efrinaldi, E., Jayusman, J., & Yeniz, M.	2023	Marriage dispensation	Rural area
30	Rethinking Early Marriages in Indonesia: Advocating for Reform to Tackle Domestic Conflict, Violence, and Rights Infringements	Utami, R. A., Pradityo, R., Karo, L. B., & Karinda, R.	2023	Poverty, culture, education, and peer groups	Rural area
31	Disfungsi Dispensasi Kawin dalam Pencegahan Perkawinan Anak di Indonesia	Ramelan, R., & Nurtsani, R.	2024	Legal loopholes and marriage dispensation	Multiple contexts
32	Perkawinan Anak di Masa Krisis: Pelajaran dari	Hanifa, I. N.	2024	Crisis, economic factors, and education	Multiple contexts



	Pandemi COVID-19 dan Implikasi Kebijakan				
33	Pernikahan Dini dalam Perspektif Hukum Islam: Studi Kasus di Lombok	Rohana, K. S., & Sainun	2024	Tradition, religion, and economy	Rural area
34	Pernikahan Dini dalam Tinjauan Hukum Islam dan Psikologi	Habibi, A.	2023	Psychological factors and norms	Multiple contexts
35	Factor-Faktor yang Mempengaruhi Pernikahan Dini di Propinsi Banten	Riri, R., Juwita, D., & Nugraha, R. D. G.	2025	Sociodemographic factors	Urban area
36	Faktor-Faktor yang Mempengaruhi Terjadinya Pernikahan Dini pada Remaja di Desa Pelimbangan...	Sutriani, A., Aquari, B., & Sari, E. P.	2025	Knowledge, parental factors, and sociocultural factors	Rural area
37	The Fertility in Child Marriage Families: In-Depth Investigation in Indonesia	Al'Ghani, M., Budijanto, B., Sumarmi, S., & Susilo, S.	2024	Fertility and early-marriage family context	Island area
38	Perkawinan pada Usia Anak: Kebijakan dan Tantangan	Az-Zahra, N. A., & Budiono, P.	2025	Policy and implementation	Multiple contexts
39	Child Marriage in Indonesia: The Tensions Between Statutory Law, Islamic Law, and Indigenous Cultural Practices	Musfiroh, M. R. M.	2025	Religion, culture, and law	Rural area
40	Perkawinan Anak sebagai Faktor Trafficking in Persons di Indonesia	Rahmania, N., Nirmala, A. Z., Riska, A., & Jamaludin, J.	2025	Social vulnerability	Rural area
41	Unraveling the Fundamental Causes of Child Marriage in Lumajang Regency	Rohmadani, E. S., Auliya Putri, A. I., Sari, E. R., et al.	2025	Economic, cultural, and educational factors	Rural area
42	Perkawinan Anak dan Hak Anak: Analisis Pencegahan dari Perspektif Positivisme	Qoyyima, A., Pradayani, S., Utami Wahyuningati, S. T., & Rato, D.	2025	Internal and external factors	Rural area
43	Perkawinan Anak Menurut Hukum Islam dan Undang-Undang Perlindungan Anak di Indonesia dan Malaysia	Winarko, A. S., Akbarizan, & Abdul Munir, A.	2025	Religion and law	Multiple contexts
44	Pernikahan Dini dalam Perspektif Hukum di Indonesia: Tantangan dan Pencegahannya	Putri, N. F.	2025	Law and marriage dispensation	Multiple contexts
45	Perlindungan Hak Anak terhadap Praktik Pernikahan Dini: Tinjauan Sosio-Yuridis di Kabupaten Gowa	Henri & Nasir	2025	Gowa, socio-legal factors	Rural area



46	Perkawinan Anak Antara Legalitas Formal dan Realitas Sosial di Masyarakat	Tabi, S., Moonti, R. M., & Ahmad, I.	2025	Education, patriarchy, and poverty	Rural area
47	Legal Consequences of Underage Marriage Practices...	Zahra, A., Marfu'atun, D. R., & Yusar, M.	2025	Legal awareness, economy, and culture	Rural area
48	Preventing Child Marriage: Advocating for Marriage Age Education to Foster Family and National Resilience	Latifiani, D., Widyawati, A., Sumartono, N. N. D., et al.	2021	Family education	Multiple contexts
49	Sosialisasi Undang-Undang Nomor 16 Tahun 2019 sebagai Upaya Penyadaran Pemahaman Hukum tentang Usia Minimum Pernikahan	Hidayah, N. P., & Komariah	2021	Legal literacy	Rural area
50	Pernikahan Usia Muda sebagai Faktor Risiko dalam Ketahanan Ekonomi Keluarga	Rahmah, S. A., & Achdiani, Y.	2025	Economy, education, and employment	Rural area
51	Investigation of Early Marriage: A Phenomenology Study in the Society of Bawean Island, Indonesia	Susilo, S., Istiawati, N. F., Aliman, M., & Alghani, M. Z.	2021	Early marriage, adultery, Indonesian interpretation, and arranged marriage	Island area

Based on Table 1, there are 51 articles identified by their titles according to theme, author, and reported determinants (causal factors). These articles are considered highly credible for analysis because they are indexed in reputable national and international journals. Of these fifty-one articles, they were grouped based on the focus of the determinants (causal factors) and the location where early marriage occurred to facilitate an in-depth comparative analysis to answer the questions posed in this paper. In determining the regional categories, we use the regional categories Based on Physical Characteristics and Activities according to Peter Haggett by grouping Rural Areas (Rural), Urban Areas (Urban) and Coastal Areas (Coastal) and their derivatives.

1. Why Does Early Marriage Still Occur in Indonesia?

Early marriage still occurs in Indonesia due to a combination of social, economic, educational, cultural, and family environment factors. In some communities, marriage at a young age is still viewed as normal—and is even considered a way to preserve family honor and avoid dating relationships, which are seen as risky (Fadhli & Warman, 2021; Rahiem, 2021; Rofita et al., 2022; Wibowo et al., 2021). These social and cultural norms can become even more entrenched when families believe that girls should marry as soon as they are considered biologically mature (Amberi, 2023; Maya, 2025a; Rohana & Sainun, 2024; Sutriai, 2025; Zahra & Ratu Marfu'atun, 2025). Furthermore, a lack of understanding regarding the consequences of early marriage leads some adolescents and parents to not fully consider its impact on education, health, psychological well-being, and economic readiness. Consequently, the decision to marry at a young age is not always an individual choice made by the adolescent but is often shaped by the influence of family and the surrounding social environment.



Educational and economic factors are also closely linked to the persistence of early marriage. Adolescents with limited access to education or at risk of dropping out of school tend to have more limited future options, so marriage may be perceived as a way out of their situation (Cameron et al., 2023; Eleanora et al., 2021; Hanifa, 2024; Hermambang et al., 2021). In families with unfavorable economic conditions, child marriage may also be viewed as an effort to reduce the family's economic burden, although in the long term, early marriage actually has the potential to increase economic vulnerability because the couple lacks adequate education, skills, or employment (Fitriyani, 2023; Hanifa, 2024; Hasmi, 2022; Liem et al., 2024; Rahmah & Achdiani, 2025; Rohmadani et al., 2022). On the other hand, unplanned teenage pregnancies can be a factor driving marriage. These circumstances indicate that early marriage must be understood as a multidimensional issue that cannot be resolved solely through bans or the dissemination of information regarding the minimum marriage age, but requires strengthening access to education, economic empowerment of families, reproductive health education, and support for adolescents.

Advances in digital technology have added a new dimension to the issue of early marriage. Social media and various digital platforms can be positive sources of knowledge for adolescents, but at the same time, they can expand access to content that is not yet appropriate for their developmental stage. Digital interactions that lack digital literacy and parental guidance can increase the risk of unhealthy relationships, social pressure, and impulsive decisions in romantic relationships (Az-Zahra & Budiono, 2025; Hidayah & Komariah, 2021; Latifiani et al., 2022; Zahra & Ratu Marfu'atun, 2025). Therefore, efforts to prevent early marriage in Indonesia should focus on approaches that are more educational, participatory, and grounded in the context of adolescents' daily lives. Schools, families, communities, the government, and digital platforms need to build a protective ecosystem for adolescents that provides knowledge, decision-making skills, and opportunities to plan for the future. With this approach, adolescents are not only encouraged to delay marriage but are also prepared to become a generation with better education, health, skills, and life planning.

2. What Are the Characteristics of Areas Where Early Marriage Occurs?

Early marriage in Indonesia does not occur uniformly but tends to be concentrated in specific regions influenced by social, economic, and educational conditions, as well as access to basic services. Rural areas—particularly those that are relatively remote, island regions, coastal areas, and regions with limited access to transportation, education, and health care—often face greater vulnerability to the practice of early marriage. These access limitations can result in adolescents having fewer opportunities to continue their education and obtain comprehensive information regarding reproductive health, life planning, and the consequences of early marriage (Cameron et al., 2023; Eleanora et al., 2021; Hermambang et al., 2021; Latifiani et al., 2022). In a geographic context, regional characteristics are not only related to administrative location but also to the level of accessibility to facilities, regional connectivity, and the intensity of community interaction with service and information centers. Therefore, the spatial conditions of a region can shape the social environment that influences decisions regarding early marriage.

The characteristics of areas where early marriage occurs can also be found in communities with a relatively high level of dependence on traditional economic sectors, such as agriculture, plantations, fisheries, and informal employment. In coastal and island regions, for example, limited job opportunities, unstable household income, and distance from educational facilities can be factors that narrow adolescents' future options (Eleanora et al., 2021; Fitriyani, 2023; Hermambang et al., 2021; Rofita et al., 2022; Susilo et al., 2021).



Meanwhile, in some rural and rural-border areas, social norms regarding the ideal age for marriage and gender roles still exert a strong influence on community life (Henri & Nasir, 2025; Hidayah & Komariah, 2021; Maya, 2025b; Rahmah & Achdiani, 2025; Rahmania et al., 2025; Rohana & Sainun, 2024; Rohmadani et al., 2022; Zahra & Ratu Marfu'atun, 2025). Marriage can be viewed as part of a normal life cycle once a child has reached biological maturity. This situation becomes increasingly complex when families face economic pressures or when a child's education is interrupted. Thus, the characteristics of regions with a high prevalence of early marriage must be examined through the interplay of geographic conditions, accessibility, economic structure, educational levels, and social norms..

In addition to rural and remote areas, early marriage must also be understood in the context of social changes occurring in urban and peri-urban areas (Hermambang et al., 2021; Rofita et al., 2022; Wibowo et al., 2021). Areas experiencing rapid population growth, changes in land use, population mobility, and social transformation can present different forms of vulnerability. Adolescents in urban areas have relatively easier access to information and educational facilities, but at the same time face exposure to digital media, changing social dynamics, social pressures, and increasingly complex interpersonal relationships (Munandar et al., 2023; Rohanah et al., 2025). This indicates that the characteristics of areas with high rates of early marriage cannot be simplified as a "rural versus urban" issue. Each region has a distinct combination of geographic and social factors, so prevention strategies must be tailored to local characteristics. A region-based approach is essential to ensure that interventions are not one-size-fits-all but take into account the conditions of coastal, island, rural, mountainous, urban, and peri-urban areas as social spaces with varying levels of vulnerability and intervention needs.

Conclusion

Early marriage in Indonesia is a multidimensional issue shaped by the interplay of social, cultural, economic, educational, and family factors, as well as the development of digital technology. This practice is not merely an individual decision made by adolescents but is often influenced by social norms, parenting styles, family pressure, economic constraints, limited access to education, unplanned pregnancies, and a lack of reproductive and digital health literacy. These conditions indicate that preventing early marriage requires a comprehensive approach that strengthens education, economic empowerment, family support, reproductive health, and adolescents' decision-making skills. Geographically, early marriage is linked to regional characteristics and vulnerabilities. Rural, remote, coastal, island, and mountainous areas, as well as regions with limited access to education, health care, transportation, employment, and information, tend to face more complex challenges. However, early marriage is not solely a rural issue, as urban and peri-urban areas also face vulnerabilities stemming from social change, population mobility, peer pressure, and exposure to digital media. Thus, regional characteristics must be understood as a combination of spatial conditions, accessibility, economic structure, education, culture, and the social dynamics of the community.

Therefore, strategies to prevent early marriage need to employ a place-based approach that takes into account the characteristics and needs of each community. Interventions must involve schools, families, communities, the government, health workers, and the digital environment in building an ecosystem of protection and empowerment for adolescents. These efforts should not be limited to delaying the age of marriage but must also focus on improving access to education, health care, skills, digital literacy, economic independence, and the ability to plan for the future. Through a contextual and participatory approach, the prevention of early marriage is expected to produce a younger generation that is healthier, better educated, more independent, and better prepared to build a family at the right time.



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Competing Interests

The author(s) declare (s) no conflict of interest.

Data Availability

The datasets generated and/or analyzed during the current study are not publicly available due to ethics related to protecting the privacy and confidentiality of research participants but are available from the corresponding author upon reasonable request.

AI Declaration

Generative artificial intelligence tools were used solely to assist with language editing, grammar checking, and improving the clarity of the manuscript. The authors reviewed and verified all AI-assisted outputs and take full responsibility for the accuracy, originality, interpretation, and final content of the manuscript. No AI tools were used to generate research data, conduct data analysis, formulate findings, or make scholarly judgments.

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