

# **The use of porcine-derived materials for medical purposes: What do Muslim and Jewish individuals know and opine about it?**

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## **Abstract**

Porcine-derived medical products represent an effective solution for a wide range of human suffering, yet this may contradict Muslim and Jewish religious prohibitions against consuming pig. The present study evaluated the level to which Muslims and Jews are knowledgeable about the conditions permitting porcine-based treatments, and explored their attitudes toward the permissibility of these treatments. 809 Muslims and 714 Jews completed a questionnaire that presented 15 medical uses of porcine-derived products. Both Muslims and Jews are not knowledgeable about the religious rulings of their religions which permit the use of pig for life saving. Both Muslims and Jews objected the view that porcine-derived materials should be permitted. The findings imply that the attitude toward porcine-derived materials for medical use is contingent upon the knowledge or lack thereof that individuals have regarding the permissibility of such use. We offer useful recommendations to improve the informed consent process before conducting porcine-based treatments.

**Keywords:** informed consent, Jews, Muslim, Porcine-derived materials, religion, xenotransplantation.