



Black, Asian and Minority Ethnic (BAME) Patients and Healthcare Current Awareness Bulletin February 2022

News and Features

BBC News, February 2022

[Miscarriage: 'I was in pain and they did not listen'](#)

Research shows black women are at a 40% higher risk of pregnancy loss than white women. It is an urgent problem, which the Royal College of Obstetricians and Gynaecologists says needs greater attention, with many complex reasons driving this higher risk.

[NHS to tackle 'unfair' maternity outcomes](#)

A taskforce has been set up to tackle disparities in maternity care experienced by women belonging to ethnic minorities and those living in deprived areas. For more information on the Maternity Disparities Taskforce please go to <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/new-taskforce-to-level-up-maternity-care-and-tackle-disparities>

Blood Cancer UK, February 2022

["Alarming" racial inequality in third vaccine doses for the immunocompromised](#)

Blood Cancer UK has condemned the 'alarming' racial inequality in access to third doses of COVID-19 vaccines for the severely immunocompromised in England. NHS England data, obtained by the charity following a Freedom of Information request, shows take-up among white British people is almost double that of some ethnic minorities.

Guardian, December 2021

[What Covid taught us about racism – and what we need to do now](#)

Long read from Gary Younge, looking at the systemic reasons for the unequal impact of Covid, and what needs to happen to change this.



Guidelines, Policies and Reports

What Works for Children's Social Care, February 2022

[Outcomes for Black Children in Care: A rapid evidence review synthesis](#)

This report presents the findings of a Rapid Review of the body of work focussing on outcomes of Black children in care, specifically reunification, placement stability, mental and physical health, and educational outcomes.

NHS Confederation, January 2022

[Addressing vaccine hesitancy in different ethnic communities](#)

Cheshire and Merseyside Health and Care Partnership used insight from a four-stage programme to understand the impact that COVID 19 was having on ethnic minority communities, and work with the different communities to understand the causes of vaccine hesitancy. This programme of work, which entailed partnership working between multiple agencies as well as with the various communities, led to a significant increase in vaccine uptake in just four months.

Office for Health Improvement and Disparities, January 2022

[Population screening: improving participation in underserved groups](#)

Summary of systematic evidence review of interventions to improve participation in UK national screening programmes among underserved groups.

Race Disparity Unit and Equality Hub, December 2021

[Final report on progress to address COVID-19 health inequalities](#)

The fourth and final report summarising work undertaken by the Minister for Equalities and government departments on COVID-19 disparities. The previous reports can be found [here](#).

All-Party Parliamentary Group on Sickle Cell and Thalassaemia (SCTAPPG), November 2021

[No One's Listening: An Inquiry into the avoidable deaths and failures of care for sickle cell patients in secondary care](#)

This inquiry sought to examine the level of care sickle cell patients receive when accessing secondary care and to determine the action that is required to improve care for sickle cell patients. Sickle cell patients too often receive sub-standard care, with significant variations in care depending on which staff happen to be on duty or which area of the country a patient is in.



Research briefings

NHS Race Health Observatory, February 2022

[Ethnic Inequalities in Healthcare: A Rapid Evidence Review](#)

This report presents the findings and recommendations of a rapid review of ethnic inequalities in healthcare and within the NHS workforce, conducted by academics at The University of Manchester, The University of Sheffield and The University of Sussex.

The Mental Elf, January 2022

[How can we culturally adapt eating disorders services to provide better care for people from racial and ethnic minorities?](#)

Andie Ashdown and Theophanis Kyriacou consider a systematic review from the US, which looks at some of the ways that we can culturally adapt eating disorders treatment for adults from racial or ethnic minorities.

Runnymede Trust, November 2021

[Ethnic minority older people, histories of structural racism and the Covid-19 pandemic](#)

This briefing uses qualitative data from research with ethnic minority older people to show (1) how isolation stemming from the pandemic restrictions has affected older people's wellbeing as well as quality of care in health and social care services, (2) the vital role that has been played by VCSE organisations in providing a lifeline for ethnic minority older people and (3) the underlying experiences and reasons behind distrust of the vaccine and health institutions more generally.

Published research

Achieving equity of access to palliative care.

British Journal of Community Nursing, February 2022; 27(2); p. 96-98

Available via [journal article request](#)

As community nurses in the UK, a lesson for us is to continue the recognition of palliative care needs for everyone through assessment and access to our care. It is important to acknowledge that some communities are disproportionately affected by the COVID-19 pandemic, and we need to double our efforts to ensure they have fair access to palliative care services.

Accessibility of health care experienced by persons with dementia from ethnic minority groups and formal and informal caregivers: A scoping review of European literature.

Dementia; February 2022; 21(2); p. 677-700

Available at: [Dementia](#)

The number of persons with dementia from ethnic minority backgrounds is increasing. However, ethnic minority groups use health care services less frequently compared to the general population. We conducted a scoping review and used the theoretical framework developed by Levesque to provide an overview of the literature concerning access to health care for ethnic minority people



with dementia and (in)formal caregivers. Studies mentioned barriers in (1) the ability to perceive a need for care in terms of health literacy, health beliefs and trust, and expectations; (2) the ability to seek care because of personal and social values and the lack of knowledge regarding health care options; and (3) lack of person-centered care as barrier to continue with professional health care. Studies also mentioned barriers experienced by professionals in (1) communication with ethnic minorities and knowledge about available resources for professionals; (2) cultural and social factors influencing the professionals' attitudes towards ethnic minorities; and (3) the appropriateness of care and lacking competencies to work with people with dementia from ethnic minority groups and informal caregivers. By addressing health literacy including knowledge about the causes of dementia, people with dementia from ethnic minorities and their informal caregivers may improve their abilities to access health care. Health care professionals need to strengthen their competencies in order to facilitate access to health care for this group.

Time varying association between deprivation, ethnicity and SARS-CoV-2 infections in England: A population-based ecological study.

The Lancet Regional Health – Europe, February 2022

Available at: [The Lancet Regional Health - Europe](#)

Deprivation and proportion of non-White populations are both associated with an increased COVID-19 burden in terms of disease spread and monitoring, but the strength of association varies over the course of the pandemic and for different ethnic subgroups. The consistency of results across the two outcomes suggests that deprivation and ethnicity have a differential impact on disease exposure or susceptibility rather than testing access and habits.

Treating hypertension in Black patients

JAAPA: Journal of the American Academy of Physician Assistants, February 2022; 35 (2); p. 15-18

Available via [journal article request](#)

For the first time in its history, the Eighth Joint National Committee (JNC-8) published hypertension guidelines that varied depending on patient race, with different treatment recommendation for Black and non-Black patients. Although initial therapy in non-Black patients is to be carried out with one of four agents-thiazide diuretics, calcium channel blockers, angiotensin-converting enzyme (ACE) inhibitors, or angiotensin receptor blockers (ARBs)-the recommendation for Black patients removed ACE inhibitors and ARBs from the algorithm. This article reviews some of the physiologic theories for the difference in recommendations and discusses potential complications with race-based treatment algorithms.

Developing a toolkit for increasing the participation of black, Asian and minority ethnic communities in health and social care research.

BMC Medical Research Methodology, January 2022

Available at: [BMC Medical Research Methodology](#)

It is recognised that Black, Asian and Minority Ethnic (BAME) populations are generally underrepresented in research studies. The key objective of this work was to develop an evidence



based, practical toolkit to help researchers maximise recruitment of BAME groups in research. A toolkit was developed with key sections providing guidance on planning research and ensuring adequate engagement of communities and individuals. Together with sections suggesting how the research team can address training needs and adopt best practice. Researchers highlighted the issue of funding and how best to address BAME recruitment in grant applications, so a section on preparing a grant application was also included. The final toolkit document is practical, and includes examples of best practice and 'top tips' for researchers.

Social and ethnic group differences in healthcare use by children aged 0–14 years: a population-based cohort study in England from 2007 to 2017.

Archives of Disease in Childhood, December 2021; 107(1) p. 32-39

Available at: [Archives of Disease in Childhood](#)

Population based cohort study into the social and ethnic group differences in children aged 5-14 and their use of healthcare services in England 2007 - 2017. The findings suggest substantial levels of unmet need among children living in socioeconomically disadvantaged areas. Further work is needed to determine if healthcare utilisation among children from Asian and black ethnic groups is proportionate to need.

Specialist palliative care services response to ethnic minority groups with COVID-19: equal but not inequitable – an observational study

BMJ Supportive & Palliative Care, September 2021

Available at: [BMJ Supportive & Palliative Care](#)

Insights into response of palliative care services during COVID-19. Concludes that policies introduced during the COVID-19 pandemic may have adversely impacted those from ethnic minority groups making these at-risk populations even more vulnerable. The palliative care response may have been equal but inequitable. During the COVID-19 period, systemic steps, including equality impact assessments, are urgently needed.



Podcasts

Speak On Podcast, January 2022

[How Maternity Care Is Killing Black and Brown People and How We Can Stop It](#)

With Benash Nazmeen, a Specialist Cultural Liaison Midwife, working towards addressing health inequalities within maternity services, and Co-Chair of Birthrights, the only UK organisation dedicated to improving women and birthing peoples experience of pregnancy and childbirth by promoting respect for human rights. Together, they talk about how to reduce harm and promote compassion and understanding in maternal healthcare.

[Making Maternity Safer for Black Women](#)

With Candice Williams, a trainee clinical psychologist, about the inequalities in maternal health for black women and birthing people. Williams is currently undertaking her Doctoral Research into perinatal inequalities for black mothers in the UK.

Library Services

Would you like to keep up to date with the latest evidence on topics of your choice? Sign up for a current awareness alert: <https://www.nhslincslibrary.uk/knowledgeshare-request/>

Can't find the information you need? We can do literature searches for you:
<https://www.nhslincslibrary.uk/search-request/>

We can provide training on how to search healthcare databases and resources as well as showing you how to appraise the information that you find:
<https://www.nhslincslibrary.uk/training/>

Online Resources

BMJ Best Practice is a clinical decision support tool that provides step-by-step guidance on diagnosis, prognosis, treatment and prevention of a wide variety of conditions:
<https://bestpractice.bmj.com/oafed>

ClinicalKey is a database which supports healthcare professionals by providing access to the latest evidence across specialties: <https://www.clinicalkey.com/>