



# Race, Ethnicity and Cultural Heritage (REACH) Staff Network Bulletin

December - January 2024

The aim of this current awareness bulletin is to provide a digest of recent guidelines, reports, research and best practice.

## **NHS Workforce Race Equality Standard (WRES) reports and action plans across NHS Lincolnshire**

- [Lincolnshire Community Health Services NHS Trust](#)
- [Lincolnshire Partnership NHS Foundation Trust](#)
- [United Lincolnshire Hospitals NHS Trust](#)

For more information on Lincolnshire's population demographics see the latest [Greater Lincolnshire Census 2021 Summaries](#) prepared by the Lincolnshire County Council Public Health Intelligence Team.

## **A Formal Evaluation of the Impact of Interventions Aimed at Vaccine Uptake and Vaccine Confidence by Black, Asian and Minority Ethnic (BAME) Health and Care Professional Networks**

This [report from the Faculty of Public Health outlines research overseen by the Faculty of Public Health, funded by Public Health England](#), and delivered by the University of Hertfordshire. It explores how voluntary health networks supported vaccine uptake in the community and how this support was received.

## **Addressing racial and ethnic inequities in data-driven health technologies**

This report from [Imperial College London's Institute of Global Health Innovation](#) highlights core considerations to improve equity through the development and deployment of AI and machine learning technology, offering key research and practice priorities to be considered at each step.

## **Comparison of the care of Asian and White women who have experienced a stillbirth or neonatal death**

The [Maternal, Newborn and Infant Clinical Outcome Review Programme has published an MBRRACE-UK Perinatal confidential enquiry report](#) on a comparison of the care of Asian and White women who have experienced a stillbirth or neonatal death. It is based on deaths reviewed in England, Wales, Scotland and Northern Ireland, for the period between 1 July 2019 and December 2019.

## **Comparison of the care of Black and White women who have experienced a stillbirth or neonatal death**

The [Maternal, Newborn and Infant Clinical Outcome Review Programme has published an MBRRACE-UK Perinatal confidential enquiry report](#) on a comparison of the care of Black and White women who have experienced a stillbirth or neonatal death. It is based on deaths reviewed in England, Wales, Scotland and Northern Ireland, for the period between 1 July 2019 and 31 December 2019.



### **Interventions for improving health literacy in migrants**

The objectives of [this Cochrane Review](#) were to assess the effectiveness of interventions for improving health literacy in migrants and to assess whether female or male migrants respond differently to the identified interventions.

### **Is immigration harming the NHS?**

In 2022, the Migration Observatory said that the fiscal impact of legal migration to the UK is small and that immigrants are an increasing share of the health and social care. This is critical to the NHS, not only for filling vacancies but also for adding to its diverse workforce. On the cost of immigration to the NHS, from publicly available data, it appears to be small, especially when we account for taxes and surcharges paid, and the reciprocal agreements that give British citizens care abroad. On added pressures to the service, migrants tend to be younger, economically active and less likely to consume health services. Staff from overseas are essential to helping the NHS to survive and thrive, especially while we face high numbers of vacancies. In this [assessment from NHS Confederation](#), immigration is of net benefit to the NHS and an incoming government should explore ways to make international recruitment to the sector as easy as possible, alongside efforts to grow the domestic workforce.

### **Is it a bruise, a rash, or an unconscious bias? Meet the medical student highlighting the risk to patients from textbooks over-representing white people**

Third-year medical student Naabil Khan had noticed the textbooks and online images she was studying had a marked bias towards white skin – and decided to rectify this. She has created a [website which demonstrates in words and pictures the varied ways different skin conditions present on skins of different colours](#). Her ambition is not limited to improving representation in medical education. She wants to amplify a growing conversation about racial bias in medicine more generally and give patients the tools to start addressing it, too.

### **Maternal mortality rates in the Black community**

Black women were at a greater risk of maternal mortality in the UK during 2018–20 when compared to White women, according to recent findings. The underlying causes of this disparity remain a complex picture. This [briefing from the House of Lords library](#) looks at the latest research findings, as well as a recent parliamentary report on Black maternal health and the government's response.

### **What overseas nurses need to thrive – and the impact of racism**

The UK's longstanding dependence on the skills of nurses recruited from overseas has deepened in recent years. The NHS is dependent on international recruitment, so it is imperative nurses from overseas feel valued and welcomed and can achieve career progression in the UK.

For full access please email [clinical.librarian@ulh.nhs.uk](mailto:clinical.librarian@ulh.nhs.uk)



### **Where are our nation's donors?**

This [report from the All-Party Parliamentary Group for Ethnicity Transplantation and Transfusion](#) says that the UK's mixed heritage and ethnic minority population face a double whammy of inequity as they are more likely to need donors due to conditions that disproportionately affect them, such as sickle cell and kidney disease, but are less likely to find well-matched donors on the blood, stem cell and organ donor registers. This is particularly true for patients in need of stem cell transplants for the treatment of blood cancer, where matched tissue type (most often found in donors from a similar ethnic background) is critical to successful outcomes. Key recommendations include: improved governance and accountability; improved data, reporting and transparency; and improved education, awareness and activity.

### **Recently published research**

#### **Assessing and documenting dark skin tones in stoma care**

**British Journal of Nursing, 2023, 32(22), S22-S26.**

The stoma care nurse (SCN) assesses peristomal skin during each patient intervention. Living in a diverse multicultural society, the SCN needs to consider dark skin tones and how these are documented. This article looks at how the literature on peristomal skin assessment and available tools discuss skin colour, and compare this with the tissue viability literature. Stoma care and peristomal skin literature features very little about skin colour.

**For full access please email [clinical.librarian@ulh.nhs.uk](mailto:clinical.librarian@ulh.nhs.uk)**

#### **Association between ethnicity and migration status with the prevalence of single and multiple long-term conditions in UK healthcare workers.**

**BMC medicine, 2023, 21(1), p.433.**

Healthcare workers' (HCW) well-being has a direct effect on patient care. However, little is known about the prevalence and patterns of long-term medical conditions in HCWs, especially those from ethnic minorities. This study evaluated the burden of multiple long-term conditions (MLTCs), i.e. the presence of two or more single long-term conditions (LTCs), among HCWs in the United Kingdom (UK) and variation by ethnicity and migration status.

**Click here for full access: [BMC Medicine](#)**

#### **Improving adult behavioural weight management services for diverse UK Black Caribbean and Black African ethnic groups: a qualitative study of insights from potential service users and service providers.**

**Frontiers in public health, 2023, pp. 1-17.**

Cultural tailoring of existing services and new programmes, and cultural competency training are needed. These actions are required within systemic changes, such as interventions to address discrimination. Our qualitative insights form the basis for advancing further work and research to improve existing services to address the weight-related inequality faced by UK Black ethnic groups.

**Click here for full access: [Frontiers in public health](#)**



**Sikh and Muslim perspectives on kidney transplantation: phase 1 of the DiGIT project—a qualitative descriptive study.**

**BMJ Open, 2023, 13(12), p.e059668.**

This UK study aimed to explore the perspectives around living donor kidney transplantation of members of the Sikh and Muslim communities with an aim to develop a digital intervention to overcome any barriers.

Click here for full access: [BMJ Open](#)

### **Library Services**

- **Current awareness:** 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/>
- **Literature searching:** Can't find the information you need? We can do literature searches for you: <https://www.nhslincslibrary.uk/search-request/>
- **Information skills training:** 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>
- **ClinicalKey** is a database which supports healthcare professionals by providing access to the latest evidence across specialties: <https://www.clinicalkey.com/>