

# Current Awareness Bulletin 30<sup>th</sup> October 2020

## Commentaries

### [Researcher voices: How funders can tackle racial bias and inequality in cancer research](#)

Wu, Weilin

**Cancer Research UK. 12 October 2020.** A virtual discussion panel with the Francis Crick Institute's Race Equity Network, PRISM to talk about experiences in academia and summarise the priority actions that funders should take to tackle racial bias and racial inequality in cancer research

### [Excess deaths from COVID-19, community bereavement, and restorative justice for communities of colour](#)

Cooper, Lisa A et al

**JAMA Network. 12 October 2020.** Communities of colour have borne the burden of excess deaths from health disparities for generations.

### [Researchers launch study into COVID bereavement among BAME people](#)

**Keep the Faith. 11 October 2020.** A key focus of the study is to ensure that equitable bereavement support is provided across the UK.

### [Health Equity Assessment Tool \(HEAT\)](#)

**Public Health England. 24 September 2020.** Resources and e-learning to support systematic action on health inequalities and equalities.

### [Coronavirus has allowed racism to 'thrive', Bradford figure argues](#)

Alam, Yusef  
**Telegraph and Argus. 11 October 2020.** The outbreak of coronavirus has caused wide-spread "fear", with fear being a "key ingredient" in allowing racism and prejudice to thrive.

### ['Something has to be done': tackling the UK's Black maternal health problem](#)

Topping, Alexandra  
**The Guardian. 2 October 2020.** Black women are five times more likely to die in pregnancy or childbirth than white women. Black and minority ethnic groups are at greater risk of their baby dying in the womb or soon after birth, and at greater risk of severe long-term health problems.

### [Covid-19 is still worsening health inequality. Why hasn't anything been done?](#)

Randhawa, Gurch  
**The Guardian. 6 October 2020.** It is well known that some BAME doctors, nurses and healthcare assistants in the NHS receive poorer treatment than their colleagues.

### [The Lancet: advancing racial equality](#)

**The Lancet. 2020.** The journal has created a resource centre with selected content, published across the Lancet journals since May 2020, organised by content type on issues related to racial equality.

### [COVID-19 Series: Resources on BAME healthcare](#)

**The Royal Society of Medicine. 18 June 2020.** Recommended resources on BAME healthcare and COVID.

### [Ethnic minority communities and the elderly called upon to bolster the fight against coronavirus](#)

**UK Department of Business et al. 13 October 2020.** Currently, ethnic minorities are under-represented in vaccine clinical trials taking place across the UK.

### [Tackling differential attainment in the medical professions, round table on summative assessments](#)

**BAPIO Publications. 14 October 2020.** The recognised phenomenon of differential outcomes or attainment for BAME employees has become a hurdle for many.

### [Listening to learn](#)

Jackson, Catherine  
**British Association for Counselling and Psychotherapy. October 2020.** Acknowledging racism in ourselves, doesn't mean "I am a terrible person" but I have been conditioned to have these feelings and reactions.

### [Commission for equality in mental health: briefing 3](#)

**Centre for mental health. 14 October 2020.** People with the poorest mental health too often find the help they are offered is the least effective, the least relevant and, for some, the most coercive. This is most dramatically evident for people from Black communities in the UK.

[A third of Black or minority ethnic Walsall Manor Hospital staff say they were bullied or harassed by colleagues](#) Guttridge, Richard

**Express and Star. 13 March 2020.** More than a third of Black and minority ethnicity workers at Walsall Manor Hospital say they were subjected to harassment, bullying or abuse from colleagues last year.

[Thousands of NHS staff excluded from race equality standard](#) Moore, Alison

**Health Service Journal. 19 October 2020.** Thousands of the lowest paid workers in the NHS are being excluded from data collected for the NHS workforce race equality standard. [Trust accused of 'racism, discrimination and bullying' as staff partnership halted](#) Kituno, Nick

**Health Service Journal. 22 October 2020.** Staff-side Committee chair of a trust says there is little change for staff on the receiving end of racist and bullying behaviours.

[Urgent response needed to tackle COVID-19 health disparities](#) Myers, Maxine

**Imperial College London News October 2020.** More work needs to be done to further understand the reasons for the disparity and those who are at highest of severe COVID-19 illness or death

[North East Ambulance Service BAME Ambassadors Project](#)

**NHS Employers. 13 October 2020.** The organisation developed a pilot to work with regional BAME organisations to recruit ambassadors, offer training, challenge the myths and raise awareness of employment opportunities and services available.

[Taking back our voices, #HumanityIsOurLane](#) Anderson, Chase TM

**New England Journal of Medicine. 22 October 2020.** To “stay in your lane” saying, has in fact echoed throughout history whenever physicians have attempted to speak out on issues deemed too “political.”

[Cervical cancer: minority ethnic women more likely to miss screenings in pandemic](#) Thomas, Tobi

**The Guardian. 25 August 2020.** Minority ethnic women are less likely than White women to attend cervical cancer screenings, with four in 10 saying they would feel unsafe attending a doctor’s surgery as a result of the pandemic.

[NHS hospital admissions for eating disorders rise among ethnic minorities](#) Thomas, Tobi

**The Guardian. 18 October 2020.** The number of hospital admissions for eating disorders is rising at a faster rate among people from ethnic minorities in England, prompting concerns.

[Racial discrimination widespread in NHS job offers, says report](#) Campbell, Denis

**The Guardian. 21 October 2020.** Minority ethnic hospital doctors suffered a double disadvantage in their quest to progress their medical careers by being promoted from a trainee doctor to a consultant.

[Delays & Destitution: an audit of Doctors of the World’s hospital access project \(July 2018-20\)](#)

**Doctors of the world. October 2020.** This audit explores the impact of the NHS charging regulations on people in extremely vulnerable situations.

[National data on suicide must include ethnicity](#) Cohen, Juliet

**BMJ ; 371 doi: <https://doi.org/10.1136/bmj.m4105>. 2020. 27 October 2020.** Suicide remains the second leading cause of death among 15-29 year olds globally, especially among ethnic minority groups in countries where data are available.

[COVID-19 update: ethnicity, occupation, risk reduction](#)

**Faculty of Occupational Medicine. 22 October 2020.** Occupational Medicine doctors and Occupational Health (OH) services have a key role in assisting employers to keep their workforce safe.

[Promoting equality and diversity through the BAME Staff Network](#) Verner, Carol

**Health Service Journal. 27 October 2020.** Kettering Hospital’s goal is to drive positive change that will impact equality, diversity, and inclusion amongst staff, and promote a safe and confidential environment to raise any issues and concerns.

[Minority community in the time of COVID and protest, a study of BAME opinion](#)

**Hope not hate charitable trust. August 2020.** This report has made clear that racism continues to shape the experiences of minority ethnic people in Britain today, but there is not a single 'BAME' experience.

[Ethnic inequalities in Covid-19 are playing out again, how can we stop them?](#) Patel, Parth

**IPPR and Runnymede Trust. 19 October 2020.** Despite the inequalities exposed, there has been little effort to stop Covid-19 hitting minority ethnic communities hardest as we enter the second wave.

[Racism, not race, drives inequity across the COVID-19 continuum](#) Khazanchi, Rohan et al

**JAMA Network. 25 September 2020.** According to this study, most Black patients live in poverty, and more than three-quarters resided in disadvantaged neighbourhoods, while only approximately one-fifth of non-Black patients fit the same descriptors.

[Racial bias a 'major issue' in senior medical appointments](#) Russell, Peter

**Medscape. 21 October 2020.** Doctors from Black, Asian, and Minority Ethnic (BAME) backgrounds have been "consistently disadvantaged" when applying for senior roles, according to a report.

[Racism is the key to understanding ethnic inequalities in COVID-19 – despite what UK government says](#) Nazroo, James and Becares, Laia

**The Conversation. 27 October 2020.** There is extensive evidence on how racism, operating at structural, institutional and interpersonal levels, is prevalent in our society and impacts people's lives.

[Structural racism led to worse COVID impact on BAME groups, report](#) Syal, Rajeev

**The Guardian. 27 October 2020.** Structural racism led to the disproportionate impact of the coronavirus pandemic on black, Asian and minority ethnic (BAME) communities

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

**UK Government Equalities Office. 22 October 2020.** This report summarises the work undertaken by the Minister for Equalities and government departments on COVID-19 disparities.

## Evidence-based articles

[COVID-19 and the risk to black, Asian and minority ethnic women during pregnancy](#) Esegbona-Adeigbe, Sarah

**British Journal of Midwifery Vol. 28, No. 10. 8 October 2020.** How BAME women navigate maternity services during the COVID-19 pandemic requires a vigilant review of their needs on an individual basis.

[Contact the library to obtain this article]

[A case-control and cohort study to determine the relationship between ethnic background and severe COVID-19](#) Zakeri, Rosita et al

**EClinicalMedicine. DOI:https://doi.org/10.1016/j.eclinm.2020.100574. 9 October 2020.** Black and Mixed ethnicity are independently associated with greater admission risk with COVID-19.

[Authors in dialogue, why race matters: then, now and for the future](#) Nicholls, Lindsey and Elliot Michelle L.

**Journal of Occupational Science, DOI: 10.1080/14427591.2020.1827689. 2020.** A reflective, critical, uncomfortable, respectful, curious, and brave dialogue will not itself 'fix' or solve any of racism issues. Nevertheless, we all have a responsibility 'to do.'

[Identifying interventions with Gypsies, Roma and Travellers to promote immunisation uptake: methodological approach and findings](#) Dyson, Lisa et al

**BMC Public Health 20, 1574 https://doi.org/10.1186/s12889-020-09614-4. 2020.** In this paper, we describe the approach taken to identify potential interventions to increase uptake of immunisations in six GRT communities in four UK cities and present the list of prioritised interventions that emerged.

[Medical CCT class of 2018: 2019 survey results](#) Royal College of Physicians

This report analyses data from eight years' worth of annual surveys reporting on the experiences of, and outcomes for, clinicians within a year of passing their medical certificate completion of training (CCT). The findings find consistent evidence of trainees from a BAME background being less successful at consultant interview.

## Racism and discrimination in society

[Covid: BAME people's mental health 'forgotten about'](#) Davies, Cemlyn

**BBC Wales. 11 October 2020.** Mind's report (a mental health charity) found 74% of 13 to 24-year-olds and 60% of over-25s said their mental health worsened at the beginning of the spring lockdown.

[Black and Asian people really are at higher risk of suffering severe Covid-19](#) Mellor, Joe

**The London Economic. 10 October 2020.** Researchers found black and mixed ethnicity patients have a three-fold higher risk of needing hospital admission with Covid-19 compared to white inner-city residents of the same region.

[Ethnic minority women twice as likely to work in low-paid, high-risk jobs 'with fewer workers' rights](#)

Oppenheim, Maya

**The Independent. 28 October 2020.** Being trapped in insecure work has exposed BME women to extra risk during this crisis, with many losing their lives.

## Multimedia Resources

[Prioritizing minorities for coronavirus vaccination](#)

**JAMA Network YouTube Channel. 14 October 2020.** Academics discuss ways to achieve the public health objective of protecting vulnerable communities while adhering to law and ethics.

[Black History Month: Retired midwife from Exeter dedicated to the NHS](#)

**ITV. 23 October 2020.** Retired nurse Faye Doris from Exeter has been dedicated to the NHS since arriving in the UK in the 1970s to train.

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