

## **COVID-19 and Black, Asian and Ethnic Minority groups – Your views sought**

We are a team of researchers from the University of Nottingham. We are seeking patient and public view on a research project we are developing. Your knowledge, expertise and views could make a profound impact on the direction of the research that will inform future policy and improve your care.

### **Proposed research: Understanding the disproportionate impact of COVID-19 on BAME communities: improving public health measures and care pathways to influence individuals and communities to make behavioural responses and lifestyle changes necessary to reduce risk**

In the UK, older people from Black Asian and Minority Ethnic (BAME) communities are at increased risk of COVID-19. A perfect storm of factors including economic and social deprivation, having poorer health and not asking for help quickly enough means they are being hardest hit. A range of public health measures are being used to contain and lessen the spread and impact of the disease. However, such measures may not be communicated or suited to people from BAME backgrounds.

Focusing on the most vulnerable BAME groups (Pakistani, Bangladeshi and Afro-Caribbean), the research aims to understand the disproportionate impact of COVID-19 on BAME groups, their responses and longer-term preparedness to implement public health measures. Specifically, we want to understand the long-term impact and optimise policies and measures that will help influence people to make behavioural and lifestyle changes necessary to reduce COVID-19 risk.

#### **To achieve this, we plan to:**

1. Look at policy and public records (including health campaigns) to understand how well they target their messages to BAME groups,
2. Conduct patient-centred case studies to talk to patients at high risk of COVID-19 and their families/health professionals about how they are applying the public health measures
3. Interview front-line health professionals and bereaved family relatives of COVID-19 patients to understand what lessons can be learnt going forward
4. Hold a round-table events with patients, professionals, and other stakeholders to present our findings and make policy recommendations.

We will present our findings at public meetings, social media, conferences, journals and at a dedicated stakeholder event to influence policy measures for the better.

#### **Feedback your thoughts**

You are welcome to provide feedback on our project. You may want to consider the following:

- 1. Whether you think the topic of the research is important to you, your family, community?**
- 2. Do you think our research will help reduce risk to vulnerable groups? What else would you like to see?**
- 3. Whether you or your family members would take part, and if not, whether there is anything that we could do to improve engagement?**