

Experiences and perspectives of perinatal care by black women and health professionals

Leicester black moms experience of perinatal health

Ebunoluwa Tolu Makinde

Member of Mary Seacole Research Centre

Professor Raghu Raghavan

Professor Angie Doshani

Dr Indu Dubey

Dr Chris Knifton

Increasing population of Black Asian and minority ethnic group (BAME) is challenging to health care delivery and services (Watson et al, 2019)

There is racial disparity in the experience of health , health outcome and access to care delivery (Watson et al, 2021)

Black Asian and ethnic minority group are mostly disadvantaged (Khan et al, 2021)

The study seeks to investigate black women experiences and perspectives of perinatal care and perinatal health professional's experiences of delivering care to black women.

What We Know (Background)

- One out of four births in the UK is to an immigrant woman (MMBRACE, 2019)
- They bear the highest risk of dying: 3% for Asian women, and 5% for black women and 8% during Covid 19 pandemic (MMBRACE, 2019)
- Black women's perinatal health outcome is seemingly linked to the following:
 - inequality experience in accessing health service (Higginbottom et al, 2019)
 - Social cultural influence and negative experience of health service (Knight et al, 2017)
 - Social determinants of health : material, psychosocial factor, behavioural and biological (Mariana et al, 2015; Global health action, 2015; Sarah et al, 2021)
 - Also, BAME women are at risk of developing perinatal mental health problems (Watson et al, 2019).

Why do we want to know (Rationale)

- The Care quality commission (2015) suggested that exploring women's experiences of perinatal care is an effective way of accessing the quality of perinatal care
- Lack of robust evaluation of implementations to address inequality experience (Higginbottom et al, 2019).
- Limited research on how perinatal care is being delivered to black women.

Research Aims

- To explore the experiences and perspectives of Black women and health care professionals in perinatal care including their mental and emotional wellbeing during their perinatal journey.

What we want to know (Objectives)

To fulfil the aim of the research, the below objectives have been set:

- To review the experiences and perspectives of black women in perinatal care
- To explore black women's mental and emotional needs during their perinatal journey
- To explore the nature of support available to black women from their support network
- To explore health professionals experience of delivering perinatal care to black women

Existing literatures

The following factors have been linked to black women's experience of perinatal care:

- Language/communication ;(Alshawish et al, 2013; Henderson& Redshaw, 2013; Gardner et al, 2014, Leahane& Champion, 2018; Whitehead, 2019; Khan et al, 2021).
- Culture/religion; (Hovart et al, 2014; Hassan et al, 2014; Dike, 2019: Sotubo, 2021)
- Health professionals perspectives and behaviours : Racism is beyond name calling, it is inability to see other people from different culture and race differently. (Memon, 2016; Kapaida et al, 2017; Khan et al, 2021)
- Discrimination and bias (Rethink, 2017, Goodwin et al, 2018, Marmot et al, 2020)

What We Do Not Know

- Discussions on black women perinatal mental health (MMBRACE, 2020).
- Published literature on experience of perinatal care by black women.
- Published literature on perinatal health professionals experiences of delivering care to black women: (Sarah et al, 2021; Dike, 2019)
- Published studies on black women's support network

How do we want to know

- A mixed methodology study : Grounded theory approach
 - Standardized questionnaire
 - Focus group discussions
 - Semi structured interviews

Research strategy

- The study is divided in to **“Three Phases”**

Phase one

What are the mental and emotional needs of black women during their perinatal journey?

The question will be answered using the following tools:

- Edinburgh postnatal depression scale (EPDS)
- Self Reported Questionnaire (SRQ)
- Camberwell Assessment of Needs (CAM-N)

Research Strategy Continued

- **Phase Two : There are three projects in phase two.**

Project one: FGD with black women

What are the experiences of Black Mothers in perinatal care services in Leicester?

Project two: FGD with black women support network

What kind of family and support network are available during perinatal care to the black African women?

Project Three: FGD with perinatal health professionals

What are the perinatal health care professional's experiences of providing perinatal care to Black Women?

Research Strategy Continued

- **Phase three**
 - Semi structured interview with black women to:
 - Explore issues that could not be discussed openly
 - New issues arising from FGD
 - Triangulate issues arising from perinatal health professionals focus group discussion

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Questions?