People with learning disabilities from ethnic minority communities including new migrants

LOTTERY FUNDED

Survey for the 'Here to Stay' project

The research evidence shows that while progress is being made, people with learning disabilities from minority communities, including new migrant communities, find it hard to get advocacy and support.

'HERE TO STAY' project, which is funded by the Big Lottery, is in response to the need to increase our knowledge base about this population including their understanding of the condition, their access to support, and the extent of demand they place upon learning disability services. We believe that better information about them and their needs will result in better service provision.

This questionnaire seeks the views of health, education and social care practitioners in England. It will take you 10 minutes to complete.

We are grateful for your help and thank you very much for your time.

1. **DEFINITIONS OF TERMS**

Learning disability **includes the presence of:**
• a significantly reduced ability to understand new or complex information, to learn new skills (impaired intelligence), with;
• a reduced ability to cope independently (impaired social functioning);
• which started before adulthood, with a lasting effect on development.
(Valuing People Now, Department of Health, 2001)

Do you need more explanation of the term *learning disability*?

- ○ *Yes*
- ○ *No*

Learning disability is caused by the way the brain develops. There are many different types and most develop before a baby is born, during birth or because of a serious illness in early childhood.

Learning disability is lifelong and usually has a significant impact on a person's life.

Learning disability is not mental illness or dyslexia.

People with learning disability find it harder than others to learn, understand and communicate.

People with profound and multiple learning disabilities (PMLD) need full-time help with every aspect of their lives - including eating, drinking, washing, dressing and toileting.

If you would like to watch a clip about lives of four people with learning disabilities, please click here

***Ethnic minority communities* are groups other than White British.**

***New migrants* are not British citizens but resident permanently or temporarily in England; this includes asylum seekers, refugees, seasonal workers and travellers, from all ethnic groups from within and outside of the European Union.**

ABOUT YOU

2. **Which of the following categories apply to you?**

- ○ *Hospital Doctor*
- ○ *General Practitioner*
- ○ *Nurse*
- ○ *Professional Allied to Health*
- ○ *Social worker*
- ○ *Care worker/assistant*
- ○ *Other*

Please specify

3. **Please state your employer:**

- ○ *GP Practice*
- ○ *NHS Hospital*
- ○ *NHS Community*
- ○ *Local authority residential*
- ○ *Local authority community*
- ○ *Education*
- ○ *Voluntary sector*
- ○ *Other*

Please specify

4. **Please tick as appropriate:**

- ○ *Male*
- ○ *Female*

Please state your ethnicity background:

5. **A. White**

- *British*
- *Irish*

Any other White background, please write in

6. **B. Mixed**

- *White and Black Caribbean*
- *White and Black African*
- *White and Asian*

Any other Mixed background, please write in

7. **C. Asian or Asian British**

- *Indian*
- *Pakistani*
- *Bangladeshi*

Any other Asian background, please write in

8. **D. Black or Black British**

- *Caribbean*
- *African*

Any other Black background, please write in

9. **E. Chinese or other ethnic group**

- *Chinese*

Any other ethnic group, please write in

Please answer the following questions based on your knowledge and experience gained as a provider of services for people with learning disabilities

10. **In your experience, do you think in general people from ethnic minority communities and new migrants understand learning disabilities as we have described it in this survey?**

To remind you the definition we use, *learning disability* includes the presence of:
• a significantly reduced ability to understand new or complex information, to learn new skills (impaired intelligence), with;
• a reduced ability to cope independently (impaired social functioning);
• which started before adulthood, with a lasting effect on development.

- ○ *Yes*
- ○ *No*

11. **Please comment:**

12. **In what way does this understanding or lack of it impact on the support you are providing?**

13. **From your experience, is the support that you provide available to people with learning disabilities from ethnic minority communities?**

To remind you the definition we use, *ethnic minority communities are groups other than White British.*

- ○ *Always*
- ○ *Very often*
- ○ *Sometimes*
- ○ *Rarely*
- ○ *Never*

14. **Please comment:**

15. **On the whole, do people from these communities access all the support they need?**

- ○ *Always*
- ○ *Very often*
- ○ *Sometimes*
- ○ *Rarely*
- ○ *Never*

16. **Please comment:**

17. **From your experience, is this support available to new migrants with learning disabilities?**

To remind you the definition we use, *new migrants* are not British citizens but resident permanently or temporarily in England; this includes asylum seekers, refugees, seasonal workers and travellers, from all ethnic groups from within and outside of the European Union.

- *Always*
- *Very often*
- *Sometimes*
- *Rarely*
- *Never*

18. **Please comment:**

19. **On the whole, do new migrants access all the support they need?**

- *Always*
- *Very often*
- *Sometimes*
- *Rarely*
- *Never*

20. **Please comment:**

21. **Do you think that people from ethnic minority communities and new migrants receive this support as soon as they need it?**

- *Yes*
- *No*

22. **Please comment:**

23. **In your view, what has worked well for people with learning disabilities from ethnic minority communities and new migrants in terms of support they receive?**

24. **What else do you think should be done to improve their access to support?**

25. What else do you think should be done to improve the quality of support?

26. Do you have any other comments you would like to make? Is there anything else that we should be taking into account when talking about service provision for people with learning disabilities from ethnic minority communities and new migrants?

Following this survey, we will be developing national guidelines how to make the learning disability services more visible and accessible to people with learing disabilities from ethnic minority communities and new migrants. We will invite people providing for this group to participate in a consultation process. It will involve considering other experts' opinions and commenting on them with an opportunity to change your own opinion. This consultancy will give a chance of achieving a consensus. There will be no need to meet as we will contact you through electronic or mail post. We also guarantee anonymity in the process with an oportunity to be acknowledged in the end.

If you consider participating please leave your contact detailsbelow or contact Olga Kozlowska by writing to o.kozlowska@wlv.ac.uk or calling Olga on 01902 32 1746.

27. Your name

28. Your E-mail address

29. Your telephone number

If you would like us to send you a summary of our findings, please provide your full contact details below.

30. Your name

31. Your mailing address:

32. Your E-mail address:

**Thank you for sharing
your knowledge and experience
with us**