



UNIVERSITY OF
LEICESTER



The Centre for Ethnic
Health Research
national centre for tackling health inequalities



Leicester
Institute for
Advanced
Studies

What did we do?

Research on COVID-19 communication and health inequalities within ethnic minority communities in Leicester during the pandemic



Which communities? How did we connect?

- African-Caribbean, South Asian and Somali communities in Leicester
- 6 focus groups and 6 interviews with community leaders from local organisations



What did we find?: Economic



Joblessness affected living standards and increased stress and need for social services.



Lack of physical contact affected community connections and support systems.



Living in multi-generational homes increased risk of COVID-19 infection.



Increased social anxieties alongside pre-existing fears related to racial inequalities and distrust of healthcare system.



Frustration with Government and NHS guidelines for caring for people who are vulnerable or have chronic health conditions.



What next?

- Local health authorities need to work with community leaders to maintain support to ethnic minorities and provide them with ways to manage their experiences from the COVID-19 pandemic.
- More studies needed on the connections between anxiety, ethnic minorities, social media use and inequalities.
- Need to conduct bigger studies developed and carried out with a wider range of communities.

