

## **National BAME Transplant Alliance and NHS Blood & Transplant**

### **Joint event to focus on BAME aspects of the Organ Donation & Transplantation Strategy: A Summary**

The National BAME Transplant Alliance (NBTA) and NHS Blood & Transplant (NHSBT) held a joint event on 16<sup>th</sup> October 2019, to focus on a key priority theme within the forthcoming Organ Donation & Transplantation (ODT) Strategy.

The Strategy is being developed with a 5-10 year view and will succeed the *Taking Transplantation to 2020* strategy.

#### **Support**

The event was opened by Millie Banerjee CBE, Chairman of NHSBT and we were later addressed by NBTA's Independent Chair, Rita Chadha. Both reflected on the importance of action on BAME issues to our respective organisations.

We were also grateful for personal statements of support at the beginning of the event from Lord Jitesh Gadhia, Eleanor Smith MP and Dr Onkar Sahota, London Assembly Member, setting the tone for the day. These statements underlined the visibility of BAME issues and the expectation of progress.

#### **Background**

We heard from six speakers covering key background in BAME-related issues in organ donation and transplantation.

Our speakers' presentations and key publications related to BAME organ donation and transplant issues are attached to the email containing this document.

#### **Discussion Themes**

The event was developed around six key issues:

- 1) What does the data tell us? Improving data on ethnicity and religion
- 2) Empowering BAME communities to lead on promoting organ donation
- 3) Addressing inequality in transplant outcomes
- 4) Diversity in the NHSBT workforce
- 5) Developing and sustaining BAME-focused action plans
- 6) Improving partnership working between NHSBT, NBTA and other supporting organisations

We have captured discussion points and data according to these themes.

## **Outputs**

Nearly 500 questions, ideas, objectives and actions have been collected for analysis from the event. These have been categorised and included in NHSBT's wider data for consideration in developing the new strategy. This will ensure that BAME issues and key ideas are presented in their own right, but also emerge within other themes in the overall strategy.

We are grateful to everyone who completed the evaluation form. We received 25 responses and these were overwhelmingly very positive about the event overall and greatly valued the input from the speakers, which provided ample opportunity for the subsequent discussions in groups.

## **Next steps**

Together, we are hugely grateful for the support of all attendees and the speakers, presenters and facilitators at the event.

We are now working in partnership to develop an overall Organ Donation & Transplantation strategy, by March 2020. Key members of the NBTA are part of the Steering Group for the strategy, who will decide its focus and advise future initiatives. We will, of course, share with you the draft strategy in early January 2020 – for your further input.

We are confident that the key issues, themes and ideas identified by the event will feature prominently in the Strategy – together with plans for action in these areas.

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