Dr Bola Owolabi MBBS DFFP MRCGP MSc

Director – Health Inequalities NHS England and NHS Improvement

NHS England and NHS Improvement
Health Inequalities Improvement Programme

Vision

Exceptional quality healthcare for all through equitable access, excellent experience and optimal outcomes.
A Legacy from the Pandemic - Narrowing Health Inequalities

Health Inequalities Improvement Programme

Enabling Programmes
Health Inequalities Drivers – Life expectancy gaps

5 years Extra Healthy Life Expectancy

Maternity Mortality Gap – BAME women

Screening & Vaccs progs designed to reduce HI

SMI Life expectancy gap

Life expectancy gap - women in most deprived areas

Learning Disability Life Expectancy Gap
NHS Health Inequalities Improvement Programme

Policy Drivers

NHS Long Term Plan – Section 2
Government Mandate to the NHS – Roles of NHS in Levelling up
Covid Pandemic Phase 3 Letter – Eight Urgent Actions
NHSE/I 21/22 Operational/Implementation Planning Guidance – 5 Key Priorities
Elective Recovery Fund – Health Inequalities Gateway
ICS White Paper
Health and Care Bill Second Reading, House of Commons
Integrated Care Systems: design framework
NHS 2021/‘22 (Q1&2) Health Inequalities Priorities for Systems and Providers

• **Priority 1: Restoring NHS services inclusively**
  - NHS performance reports should be broken down by patient ethnicity and IMD quintile, focusing on:
    - Under-utilisation of services (e.g. proportions of cancelled appointments)
    - Waiting lists
    - Immunisation and screening
    - Late cancer presentations

• **Priority 2: Mitigating against 'digital exclusion'**
  - Ensure providers offer face-to-face care to patients who cannot use remote services
  - Ensure more complete data collection, to identify who is accessing face-to-face / telephone / video consultations (broken down by patient age / ethnicity / IMD quintile / disability status / condition)

• **Priority 3: Ensuring datasets are complete and timely**
  - Improve collection of data on ethnicity, across primary care / outpatients / A&E / mental health / community services / specialised commissioning

• **Priority 4: Accelerating preventative programmes**
  - Flu and Covid vaccinations
  - Annual health checks for people with severe mental illness (SMI) and learning disabilities
  - Continuity of maternity carers
  - Targeting long-term condition diagnosis and management

• **Priority 5: Strengthening leadership and accountability**
  - System and provider health inequalities leads to access Health Equity Partnership Programme training, as well the wider support offer, including utilising a new Health Inequalities Leadership Framework (to be developed).
HEALTHCARE INEQUALITIES IN ENGLAND

The ‘Core 20 Plus 5’ initiative is designed to drive targeted health inequalities improvements in the following areas:

**Target population**

**CORE20**
The most deprived 20% of the national population as identified by the Index of Multiple Deprivation

**PLUS**
ICS-chosen population groups experiencing poorer-than-average health access, experience and/or outcomes, who may not be captured within the Core20 alone and would benefit from a tailored healthcare approach e.g. inclusion health groups

**20%**

**Key clinical areas of health inequalities**

1. **MATERNITY**
   - ensuring continuity of care for 75% of women from BAME communities and from the most deprived groups

2. **EARLY CANCER DIAGNOSIS**
   - 75% of cases diagnosed at stage 1 or 2 by 2026

3. **SEVERE MENTAL ILLNESS (SMI)**
   - ensuring annual health checks for 60% of those living with SMI (bringing SMI in line with the success seen in Learning Disabilities)

4. **CHRONIC RESPIRATORY DISEASE**
   - a clear focus on Chronic Obstructive Pulmonary Disease (COPD), driving up uptake of Covid, Flu and Pneumonia vaccines to reduce infective exacerbations and emergency hospital admissions due to those exacerbations

5. **HYPERTENSION CASE-FINDING**
   - to allow for interventions to optimise BP and minimise the risk of myocardial infarction and stroke
A Legacy from the Pandemic - Narrowing Health Inequalities – The Role of Leadership & Leaders

Setting Direction

Health Inequalities Improvement Programme

Accountability

Creating a positive improvement culture
Accountability – NEDs & Chairs

Awareness

Improvement

Capability

Assurance

Data

Insight
Questions