Tuesday 25th February 2014

LAUNCH BME CANCER VOICE (part of BHI Charity)

LAUNCH BME CANCER VOICE PATIENT INFORMATION SURVEY REPORT
INTRODUCTION

DETAILS OF THE LAUNCH

BME Cancer Voice was re-launched by BHI an organisation working nationally with charitable status at the House of Commons on 25th February 2014, the event was attended by 115 people.

The Launch was hosted by Fabian Hamilton MP and supported by Baroness Howells of St Davids OBE.

BACKGROUND OF BME CANCER VOICE

BME Cancer Voice was developed and supported by the NHS National Cancer Action Team part of the NHS National Cancer Programme until March 2013 when this was abolished as part of the NHS reforms. National cancer patient experience surveys have shown consistently since 2000 that patients from BME (Black Minority Ethnic) groups have identified a poorer experience of cancer services than white cancer patients. BME Cancer Voice is well positioned to play a crucial role in identifying areas of improvements.

BME CANCER VOICE PATIENT INFORMATION SURVEY FINDINGS

BME Cancer Voice survey field work took place between 2012 and 2013, with over 600 individuals completed a survey either online, over the phone or by post. The key findings are shown below:

• 58% of patients who required a prosthesis were not offered one that was appropriate to their skin tone
• In 2 out of 5 cases where an interpreter was required, this service was not offered by the NHS
• A quarter of patients felt uninformed regarding advice or support specific to their culture/religious beliefs/spiritual needs
• Patients from a Chinese ethnic group who took part in the survey felt the least informed of all the groups

The report demonstrates there is a clear need to develop greater cultural competency within the NHS, which supports both BME Cancer Patients and NHS staff. Cancer affects 1 in 3 people in the UK however certain cancers including
Prostate Cancer, Cervical Cancer and Stomach Cancer have higher incidence rates within some ethnic groups:

- Prostate Cancer incidence rates are three times higher amongst African and African Caribbean men white men (Source Prostate Cancer uk)

- Prostate Cancer accounts for 22% of cancer deaths in black men and 8% in all deaths (Source Luke Hounsome, Public Health England 2012)

- Incidence rates of Cervical Cancer for South Asian females over 65 are twice as high as for white females of the same age (Source NCIN 2009/10)

- Breast Cancer mortality rates for Black and South Asian women is higher than those for white women (Sources NCIN 2009, Bowen 2009, and Wild 2006).

BME Cancer Voice is committed to working with partners to ensure the gap of cancer patient inequalities is narrowed.

Baroness Howells “You only live until you die so use your voice! I feel like I have seen a break through today in my community. I'm delighted to see a representation of communities making Britain a better community. Keep on keeping on BME Cancer Voice”
Paula Lloyd Knight & Rob Webster

Paula Lloyd Knight “Since the national cancer patient experience survey programme commenced, we have seen people from BME groups report a poorer experience of NHS cancer services than white cancer patients. BME Cancer Voice can play a vital role in identifying the specific cultural, religious and faith needs of BME cancer patients and their carers and working with a range of partners can identify solutions for improvements.”

Right to left - Paula Lloyd knight (Chair of BME Cancer Voice Chair), Rob Webster (CEO NHS Confederation), Heather Nelson (BME Cancer Voice National Director), Fabian Hamilton MP, Baroness Howells

Fabian Hamilton MP “It is important that we all work together in order to narrow the gap of patient cancer experience.”
Rob Webster CEO NHS Confederation “Digital inclusion is the way forward. NHS services have to ensure that they are culturally competent”
OUTCOME OF THE LAUNCH – PLEDGES OF SUPPORT

Fabian Hamilton MP

- Early Day Motion at the House of Commons
- Continuous support/endorsement for BME Cancer Voice

Baroness Howells of St. David

- Table debate at the House of Lords
- Continuous support/endorsement of BME Cancer Voice

One Medical Group

- Partnership Work

Leeds ACT (Leeds University)

- Research support

The work of BME Cancer Voice and the national campaign Cancer Does Not Discriminate is important to raise awareness of Cancer amongst the minority communities in England in a culturally appropriate way. Understanding and breaking down the barriers which prohibit early presentation.

I support this important campaign which along with other initiatives will work towards narrowing the gaps of inequality in BME Patient Experience and Survivorship.

Best Wishes

Sean Duffy
National Clinical Director for Cancer
Report written by:

Heather Nelson JP  
BME Cancer Voice National Director  

Paula Lloyd knight  
Founder & Chair of BME Cancer Voice

GET INVOLVED

We need your support to continue this work, help us to identify the needs of BME cancer patients and help narrow the gap

CONTACT US – Become a BME Cancer Voice Member

E: bmecancervoice@bhi.leeds.org.uk
T: 0113 3070300
@BMECancerVoice
BME Cancer Voice
www.bmecancervoice.org

BME Cancer Voice would like to express their thanks to the BME Cancer Voice members and those who attended the launch, raised questions and engaged with the whole process, we are indebted to your continued support.

Acknowledgment and thank you to One Medical Group for supporting the printing of the report