



EVIDENCE SYNTHESIS  
IRELAND



Cochrane  
Ireland

## Evidence Synthesis Ireland Fellowship Scheme

### Review Identification Form

#### Review Centre/Group Mentor

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#### Review topic

**Effective ways to promote collaboration between researchers and diverse ethnic communities: a rapid review of current evidence.**

#### Review type and methods

**Review type:** i) **Rapid review** - to collect information on what are the facilitators and barriers for effective and routine collaboration between researchers, voluntary sector community organisations and individuals from diverse ethnic communities. ii) **Partner survey** - to identify exemplars of meaningful co-productive work between researchers and voluntary sector community organisations and/or individuals from diverse ethnic communities, which have not been published in the literature.

**Review methods:** We will follow recommendations from the Cochrane Rapid Reviews Methods Group and Healthcare Improvement Scotland for rapid evidence synthesis. We will search major electronic clinical and social science databases (e.g., Medline, Embase, CINAHL, ASSIA, Social Sciences Citation Index) using a combination of database index terms and text words. We will also include grey literature. Search strategies will be agreed with voluntary sector community partners to ensure we are not missing relevant search terms. Two researchers will be involved in the screening of search results and data extraction. We will include qualitative and mixed methods studies focusing on the views and experiences of researchers and diverse ethnic communities toward collaboration. When possible, we will assess the methodological quality of included studies using the Critical Appraisal Skills Programme (CASP) tool. We will use a 'best-fit' framework approach for analysis, a pragmatic method suitable for rapid synthesis focusing on factors that affect the 'quality' of collaboration between researchers and diverse ethnic communities. Our starting framework will list these factors alongside information about the diverse ethnic communities involved. We will also survey our community partners and their networks to collect good practice examples.

## Review information

This rapid review is part of a broader project [*Better collaboration for better health: building trustworthy and sustained collaboration with diverse ethnic communities to improve equity and health outcomes*] funded by the National Institute for Health and Care Research Programme Development Grant in the UK (project no. NIHR205177). Apart from the rapid review and partner survey the project comprises a series of focus groups and/or interviews with both diverse ethnic communities and researchers. We will use the Evidence-to-Decision Framework to organise the information gathered from the literature and from the focus groups/interviews in a structured way and develop recommendations on what needs to be changed/improved in practice.

## Review details

There are efforts to bring wider community insights into health research. The James Lind Alliance, for example, listens effectively to community views in relation to priority setting for research, and INVOLVE (the NIHR's national advisory group to support active public involvement in NHS, public health and social care research) has produced guidance to support co-production partnerships between researchers and the public. The NIHR's 'People in Research' initiative enables researchers and communities to connect to discuss specific projects, and the NIHR INCLUDE framework provides useful advice for specific projects. However, to date, there has been little direct consultation with diverse ethnic communities or other minoritized groups about research processes, structure, conduct, and funding. Consultations that do exist tend to be highly focused. We believe that we need to rethink the way we consult and work with diverse ethnic communities and we need to explore new and better approaches to public partnership that could inform future health and social care research.

**Review current status – please indicate current status of review (e.g. protocol on PROSPERO, searches started etc.)**

Protocol development.

**Any specific/desirable requirements for fellow (e.g. clinical expertise, methodological expertise)**

Some knowledge of qualitative research methods would be desirable but not essential.

**Estimated start and completion dates**

The Rapid Review is expected to start in July/August 2023 and to be completed by Nov/Dec 2023.

The Fellow will have the opportunity to participate in various aspects of the broader project, which is planned to be completed by Sept 2024.

The Fellow will also have the opportunity to contribute to quantitative evidence syntheses (e.g., screening of search results, risk of bias assessment, data extraction, and data analysis), which are part of our research portfolio. Each evidence synthesis project is conducted and delivered by a multidisciplinary research team involving information scientists, methodologists, statisticians, topic experts and patient partners.