

Press Release

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CAHN's COVID-19 Vaccines Report
Hashtag: #CAHNCOVID19VaccinesReport

This report has been produced following CAHN's special Health Hour information session on 16th January 2020 that focused on the COVID-19 vaccines with a panel of Black GPs and senior consultants who shared their experiences, and personal reasons for taking the COVID-19 vaccines and why would encourage Caribbean & African people to take the vaccine when offered. The event was attended by CAHN's Patron, the Very Reverend Rogers Govender, Dean of Manchester and Nadhim Zahawi.

The report highlights the disparities faced and the basis upon which many Black people will engage and make decisions about which path to choose for their own health. 40% of the 220 respondents to the post-event evaluation (within a week) said they would receive the COVID-19 vaccines based on the information they have received during the event.

Faye Bruce, Chair of Caribbean and African Health Network (CAHN) says,

'We are delighted to see a shift in the number of Black people making the decision to take COVID-19 vaccines resulting from our events. This affirms our campaign to ensure that public health messages are tailored and delivered by professionals that communities can identify with and trust.'

Yvonne Coghill CBE, Special Advisor, NHS Race and Health Observatory says,

'This document is excellent and comes directly from a wonderful seminar held by CAHN for people to hear directly from Black clinicians who were able to hear and allay the fears of people of African and Caribbean heritage in order for them to feel more confident about taking the COVID-19 vaccines.'

Charles Kwaku-Odoi, Chief Officer of CAHN says 'We welcome the Government's investment of circa £23.5million in the Community Champions Scheme through Local Authorities. However, we are aware many faith groups do not see themselves as part of their local voluntary sector and hence not part of current engagement structures. In order to increase the uptake of COVID-19 vaccines in the Black community, we encourage recognition and closer collaboration with faith and community leaders.

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Note to Editors

CAHN COVID-19 Vaccines sessions

The main webinar was on Saturday 16th January 2021
- <https://youtu.be/XGFqIbPbuaQ>

The second webinar took place on 30th January 2021
- <https://youtu.be/RtRFp5uVnxw>

For further information or collaboration opportunities please contact:
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About CAHN

The Caribbean and African Health Network (CAHN) is a Black-led organisation set up to reduce health inequalities for people of Caribbean & African in Greater Manchester and beyond. CAHN seek to address the wider social determinants that reduce health inequalities and works with the Black community, and cross-sector organisations in a collaborative way to build community resilience and improve understanding of the Black community.

CAHN's **vision** is to eradicate health inequalities within a generation for Caribbean & African people.

Our **mission** is to lead strategic engagements aimed at influencing policy and practice in a way that ensures racial justice is embedded in decision-making matrices of service providers, commissioners and health services reform.

CAHN Social Handles

Website: **www.cahn.org.uk**

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