

#FIVEXMORE



BLACK WOMEN ARE 5 TIMES MORE LIKELY TO DIE IN PREGNANCY

And we need to know why

According to the Mbrrace UK (2018) report[1], black women in the U.K. have a five times higher risk of dying in pregnancy in comparison to a white woman.

They state that "there is a five-fold difference in maternal mortality rates amongst women from black ethnic backgrounds and an almost two-fold difference amongst women from Asian Ethnic backgrounds compared to white women. **Action is needed to address these disparities**. ACTION: Policy makers, service planners/ commissioners, service managers, all health professionals."

As per the above statement, action is needed to address these alarming disparities, but we don't feel like enough, if anything, is being done to put a stop to the deaths of black women during pregnancy.

We need your help to put an end to this.

THIS IS NOT NEW INFORMATION

Unfortunately, this type of information isn't new to the health professional world either. Reports of differences between maternal mortality rates of black women in the U.K. have been apparent since as early as 1991 and yet nothing has been done to change this enormous disparity.

Since 1952, The department of health in the U.K. compiles an annual report into maternal mortality and why mothers die called the "Confidential Enquiry Into Maternal Deaths" (it's name has evolved over the years).[1]

- Existing reports, date as far back as 1991 states that "the risk of maternal death may be higher in Black women,"[2] however at the time there was not specific data collected prehistorically so it was unable to give exact figures.

- Fast forward to the 1998 report, we see that "Black women (a composite of Black African, Black Caribbean, Black Mixed and Black Other) have a three times greater risk of maternal mortality."[3]

- The risk of maternal death in 2012–14 was found to be significantly higher among women from Black ethnic minority backgrounds compared with White women according to the Mbrrace report 2014 .[4]

It is now 2019. The statistics have risen dramatically over the years and **black women are now 5 times more likely to die**, meaning that n**o appropriate action hasn't been taken and many deaths could potentially have been avoided.**

We need your help to put an end to this.





WHY IS THIS HAPPENING?

Over the years, the reports have suggested various reasons as to why black women have a higher risk of dying including[4]:

- Poor management of higher risk pregnancies
- Substandard care: Failure of diagnosis and treatment
- Lack of access to antenatal care
- Poor communication between health professionals
- Inherent Racial bias and stereotyping of black women within health care services in terms of providing an equal service

We need your help to put an end to this.

CALL FOR ACTION

Lets put an end to this

This campaign calls for those in higher positions to:

1. Find out exactly why black women are more likely to die so it can be prevented going forward
2. Seek to educate both health professionals and people of ethnic minority backgrounds on this matter to get the wider conversation going and to avoid any untimely deaths.
3. Make a change in the current practice and care for black pregnant and postpartum women.

It is important to understand if there are specific risks in women belonging to BME groups to help devise effective prevention strategies[5].

If a specific enquiry isn't done into finding out exact reasons why women from ethnic groups are more at risk of maternal mortality, sadly this number will continue to rise.

Having a baby is meant to be one of the most joyous times in your life, however for a woman of colour this can be tarnished with so many negative thoughts, feelings and experiences with regards to their treatment within the healthcare system.



WHAT CAN I DO?

How can I help support this campaign

1. Sign the petition (Click Link Below)

http://chng.it/PX9nCsmMJV

Sign this petition today if you want more answers, a change to the way things are currently being done and most importantly a reduction of black women dying due to pregnancy related factors. We can't do this without your support. Please forward on to every single person you know regardless of race, as this problem affects anyone who lives in the U.K. and not just black people.

2. Watch and share the campaign video (Click Link Below)

https://youtu.be/7k9cO9PiAfQ

Share this video with everyone you know to make this video go viral and be a topic of conversation in our community and the wider public. We will no longer stay silent about this issue.

3. Take part in the #**fivexmore** selfie challenge on instagram (Click Link Below)

Follow us on instagram @fivexmore_

Take a selfie with your hand in front of your body to represent the fact the black women are 5 times more likely to die and also that we need to put a stop to this. Use the hashtag #**fivexmore** so we can find you.

Thank you in advance, we cant do this without you.

#FIVEXMORE

REFERENCES

1.
https://www.npeu.ox.ac.uk/downloads/files/mbrrace-uk/reports/MBRRACE-UK%20Maternal%20Report%202018%20-%20Web%20Version.pdf

2.
https://webarchive.nationalarchives.gov.uk/20030801172235/http://www.doh.gov.uk:80/cmo/mdeaths.htm#summary%20of%20key%20findings

3.
https://webarchive.nationalarchives.gov.uk/20131205122949/http://www.archive.official-documents.co.uk/document/doh/wmd/wmd-01.htm

4.
https://www.npeu.ox.ac.uk/downloads/files/mbrrace-uk/reports/MBRRACE-UK%20Maternal%20Report%202016%20-%20website.pdf

5.
https://journals.plos.org/plosone/article?id=10.1371/journal.pone.0095086

#FIVEXMORE