# **Addressing Health Inequalities in Accessing Antiviral Treatment** Julie Painter Senior Sister COVID Medicine Delivery Unit (CMDU)





# **Background**

The Black Country CMDU delivers NICE TA 878: Nirmatrelvir plus ritonavir, sotrovimab, and tocilizumab for the treatment of COVID-19 in high-risk patients. An audit of 40 randomly selected patients out of 229 referrals received from 01/10/23 to 30/11/23 revealed that 92.5% of the referrals were white British, which did not accurately represent the diverse population of the Black Country. This led to the initiation of the QI project to address this disparity in this at-risk population.

#### **SMART Aim**

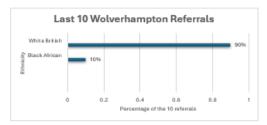
To increase awareness of CMDU among eligible non-hospitalised patients, to ensure that 15% more patients from diverse ethnic backgrounds, in addition to White British patients, receive the appropriate antiviral treatment within 7 days of experiencing COVID-19 symptoms or testing positive, by 30/06/24

#### Mapping of the last 10 patients The last 10 patients for each region in the Black Country after completing the

first PDSA cycle

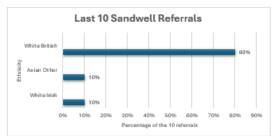
 Walsall 100% of the last 10 patients expressed their ethnicity as White British Results before the first PDSA cycle for Walsall: 80% White British, 10% Indian, 10% Mixed Asian other

Wolverhampton 90% of the last 10 patients expressed their ethnicity as White British



Results before the first PDSA cycle for Wolverhampton: 70% White British, 10% white other, 10% Indian, 10% Pakistani

Sandwell 80% of the last 10 patients expressed their ethnicity as White British



Results before the first PDSA cycle for Sandwell: 90% White British, 10% Asian Other

# Last 10 Dudley Referrals White Britis White Other Chose not to disclose

10% 20% 30% 40% 50% 60% 70% 80% 90% Percentage af the 10 referrals

Results before the first PDSA cycle for Dudley: 100% White British

# Plan to address the disparity

Increase communication with CMDU from patients with diverse ethnic backgrounds, through posters, websites, staff meetings, and social media. Providing appropriate information in the top 5 languages spoken in Wolverhampton on how to access antiviral treatment to prevent poor health outcomes from COVID-19 in this vulnerable group.

## **Results of first PDSA Cycle**

The data collection period: 01/02/24-17/03/24

Total number of referrals received during this time: 59, 40 random patients were chosen from the 59 referrals received.

#### Results:

33 White British patients, one Black Caribbean, one White Irish, two Asian Indian, one Black African, one Asian Pakistani and one patient chose not to disclose. This equates to:

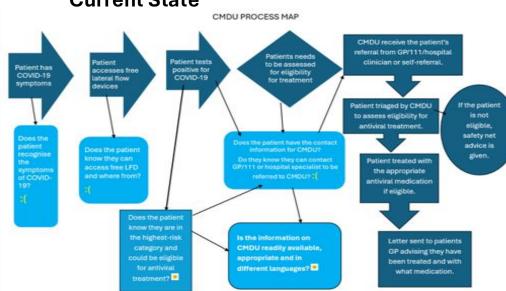
- 12.5% of the 40 random patients were non-White compared to 7.5% previously
- 87.5% white British/White Other/White Irish

# **Covid Medicines Delivery Unit**

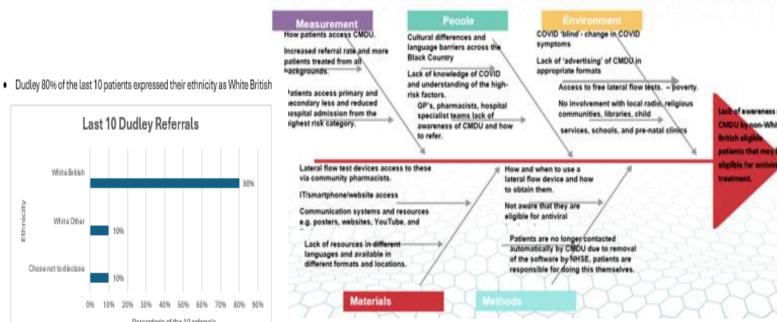
## **Summary:**

The initial results of the PDSA cycle show a significant improvement in effectively reaching the diverse population of the Black Country. This improvement is directly linked to the inclusion of CMDU information on Trust Websites and its presentation to clinicians. Additionally, a YouTube video is currently in production, and final approval for the poster is pending before it can be printed and publicly displayed. These resources are set to promote CMDU to a broader audience effectively, and we anticipate even more significant progress following the second PDSA cycle.

## **Current State**



# FISHBONE DIAGRAM



#### **CMDU Information Poster**





#### Treatment is now available if you test positive for COVID. Scan the QR Code for further information.

العلاج متاح الأن إذا كانت نتيجة الحِتبار فيروس كورونا إيجابية. قم بمسح رمز الاستجابة السريعة لمزيد من المعلومات. چارەسەركردن ئيستا بەردەستە ئەگەر ھاتوو پشكتېتە كەت پۆزەتىڤ بوو بۇ كۆڤىد. كۆدى QR سكان بكە بۇ زانيارى زياتر. Jeśli Twój wynik badania na COVID-19 jest pozytywny, możesz teraz skorzystać z leczenia. Zeskanuj kod QR, aby dowiedzieć się więcej.

ਜੇ ਤੁਹਾਡਾ covid ਲਈ ਟੈਸਟ ਪਾਜ਼ਿਟਿਵ ਆਉਂਦਾ ਹੈ ਤਾਂ ਹੁਣ ਇਲਾਜ ਉਪਲਬਧ ਹੈ। ਹੋਰ ਜਾਣਕਾਰੀ ਲਈ QR ਕੋਡ ਨੂੰ ਸਕੈਨ ਕਰੋ।

Acum puteți primi tratament dacă ați avut rezultat pozitiv la testul COVID. Scanați codul QR



Scanați codul QR



Working in partnership The Royal Wolverhampton NHS Trust Walsall Healthcare NHS Trust